

FIRST
COMICS
DELUXE SERIES

OCT. \$1.75
NO. 16
\$2.45 CANADA

THE BADGER™



WOR86

Dear LARRY,:

C/O FIRST COMICS
435 N. LASALLE
CHICAGO IL
60610

Hey, Larry:

So I was readin' Badger #13 today, see? And on page 13, panel 5, there's this bald-headed kid with these BIG glasses. That's okay, it was Cynosure, kid's got a right to be there. But it just happened to be the same kid as the one in First's subscription ad.

So, who's the kid, Larry? I mean is he somebody real, or what? And why's he always got his mouth open, huh?

I really want to know, y'know?

Christopher Blue
The LOC Nest
Box 189 Lake Hall
Kent State University
Kent, OH 44243

I haven't the vaguest idea what you're talking about; both youths in question clearly have hair coming out of at least three areas of their respective heads.

Dear Mike:

When I got to the end of issue #13, I thought, "Great, now I can watch the homicidal fury of Pierre unleashed against Lord Weterlackus next issue." Yet when I read Badger #13, I not only saw I was wrong, but I understood why.

Pierre is, in every sense of the term, a homicidal maniac, and because of this he would not attack someone as powerful as Weterlackus, but would instead choose to attack someone weaker who he could easily overcome and force to submit to his own sadistic purposes. Hence he chose Daisy. Pierre is a sick, depraved individual. It's sad that this devil must be a part of the Badger we love.

I pity him and pray that he can keep Pierre in check before someone dies.

Ken Price
506 Union St.
Oswego, KS 67356

Dear Larry:

I just started collecting the Badger title and I would like to know what the Badger's powers are and how he got them.

Richard Le
2409 S. 138th E. Ave.
Tulsa OK

He talks to animals and occasionally turns into a sick, depraved individual. Oh yeah, he's also highly proficient in numerous martial arts and is either a Zen master or a close relative of Zippy the Pinhead. Or possibly both. How did

he get his powers? I think he makes them up himself as he goes along. If you're "crazy" you can do anything you want, because nobody will be able to convince you that you can't.

Dear Mr. Mike:

The Badger's been better than ever since the Hodag showed up. Mister Mike, did you know that when you created the Hodag you created a hero for all us little guys? You sure did, you sly coon! Too bad the Hodag got such bad luck by dancin' on that Injun burial mound and had to turn into that Gila Monster. Hell, I thought the Badger was one tough dude, but the Hodag is a mean and even tougher dude!

I'm only sorry that the Hodag ran away at the end. Please, Mr. Mike, please bring back the Hodag to chase these Dumb Communists off the face of the earth! I'll just bet you could sweet talk the First Communists into givin' the Hodag his own limited or regular series!

You know sumpin' Mr. Mike? I even like your back-up strip, Zoomtown, even if it is full of hippies! It's chock full of the sweetest bimbos ever drawn, and that's what counts in my book!

Cousin Dick
U.S. 1 Utilitarian Union
941 Walnut St., #7
Chico, CA 95928

Dear Larry:

1. Is there a chance of a Pierre limited series?

2. Will the Badger put this so-called kung fu master in the hospital in issue #14?

3. Will Jeffrey Butler be returning to help Bill Reinhold on this mag's magnificent art?

Reg Stacey
Frankford, Ontario
Canada

1. Not much.
2. No.

3. No. None whatsoever. But **Jeff Butler** has pencilled and inked an entire issue of the **Badger** all by himself without any help from Bill, and it'll be out... next month!

Dear Larry and Badger and Mike and Bill:

Yes!! Yes!! I want more!! Judah Maccabee is great in Nexus, and even better in Badger. He and Ham should become great friends. Also, speaking of guest stars: Clonezone. He is awesome,

funny, and utterly great (and we're not talking about cows).

Raphe Cheli
1157 Arcadia St.
Bethlehem, PA 18817

Great! How about the Zone in Badger every month? Because after Zoomtown winds up in issue #18, he's taking over the back eight pages with the dreaded "Tales from the Clonezone," starting in issue #19. Why? Because his old pal Judah gave him the boot over in Nexus so he could have his own back-up series!



NEXT MONTH: Co-creator and original Badger artist **Jeffrey Butler** returns for one issue to help **Mike Baron** and Badger track down an escaped rhinoceros in a little tale we call... "Buffalo."

--Rick Oliver

Rick Obadiah, Publisher

Rick Oliver, Editorial Director
Laurel Fitch, Editorial Coordinator
Alex Wald, Art Director
Rick Taylor, Production Manager

Ralph C. Muscant,
Financial Director
Kathy Kotsivas,
Operations/Sales Director

THE BADGER® Vol. 1, No. 16, October 1986. Published by FIRST COMICS, INC., OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 435 N. LaSalle, Chicago IL 60610. Published monthly. Copyright ©1986 First Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Price: \$1.75 in the U.S. Subscription rates for twelve issues: \$21.00 in the U.S., \$23.00 in Canada, and \$40.00 foreign rate. All payments must be in U.S. funds. The stories, incidents, and characters mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional. No actual person, living or dead, without satiric content, are intended or should be inferred. We regret to announce that Fred the Wonder Guppy has been flash-fried. Coleslaw, anyone? The Badger, Zoomtown and all prominent characters featured in this issue are trademarks of First Comics, Inc. Printed in the U.S.A. Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at Chicago, IL 60607. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changed to **The Badger**, c/o First Comics, Inc., 435 N. LaSalle, Chicago IL 60610.

**A FIRST COMICS
PUBLISHING PRODUCTION**

Dear Reader,

If you're interested in other First comics not available where you purchased this book, you can find all First publications at Comic Specialty Stores throughout the country. Consult the yellow pages for the comics outlet near you.

NEPAL.

BADGER--
YOU'VE GOT TO
HELP ME FIND THE
YETI BEFORE IBOB
KILLS HIM.

IBOB,
IBOB...WHAT'S
IBOB?

THE
INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF BRUJOS--
A GROUP OF SORCERORS,
WITCHES AND WARLOCKS
DEDICATED TO ERODING THE
FABRIC BETWEEN THIS
WORLD AND THE
NEXT...

DID THEY PUT
HOLES IN MY SWEATER?
WHAT'S IN IT FOR
THEM?

HIDEOUS
CREATURES TO
DO THEIR
BIDDING.

WHAT'S
IN IT FOR
ME?

BLOOD
SACRIFICE! THAT'S
WHERE IBOB GETS
ITS POWER--LIKE
HAM USED TO
DO.

I DON'T KNOW, MAN...
WARREN SAYS I GOT CRITTERS
AND FRITTERS A LOT CLOSER
TO HOME I OUGHT TO BE
LOOKING OUT FOR...

HAM OWES
ME. YOU OWE
WOMBAT.

BAP
BAP

WELL, OKAY,
MAN. BUT THIS
BETTER NOT TAKE
TOO LONG. I WANT
TO BE HOME FOR
THE FORTH.

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE!
BRUJO ASSASSINS HAVE BEEN POURING
INTO THE COUNTRY! ONE THING YOU SHOULD
KNOW--THE USE OF GUNPOWDER AND
MODERN WEAPONS DEPRIVE THE
BRUJO OF THEIR POWERS.

AN
END TO
ANIMAL
SACRIFICE.

WHAT?!

THEY ARE
EXPERT AT
HAND-TO-HAND
COMBAT.

HOW
ARE YOU?

ME?

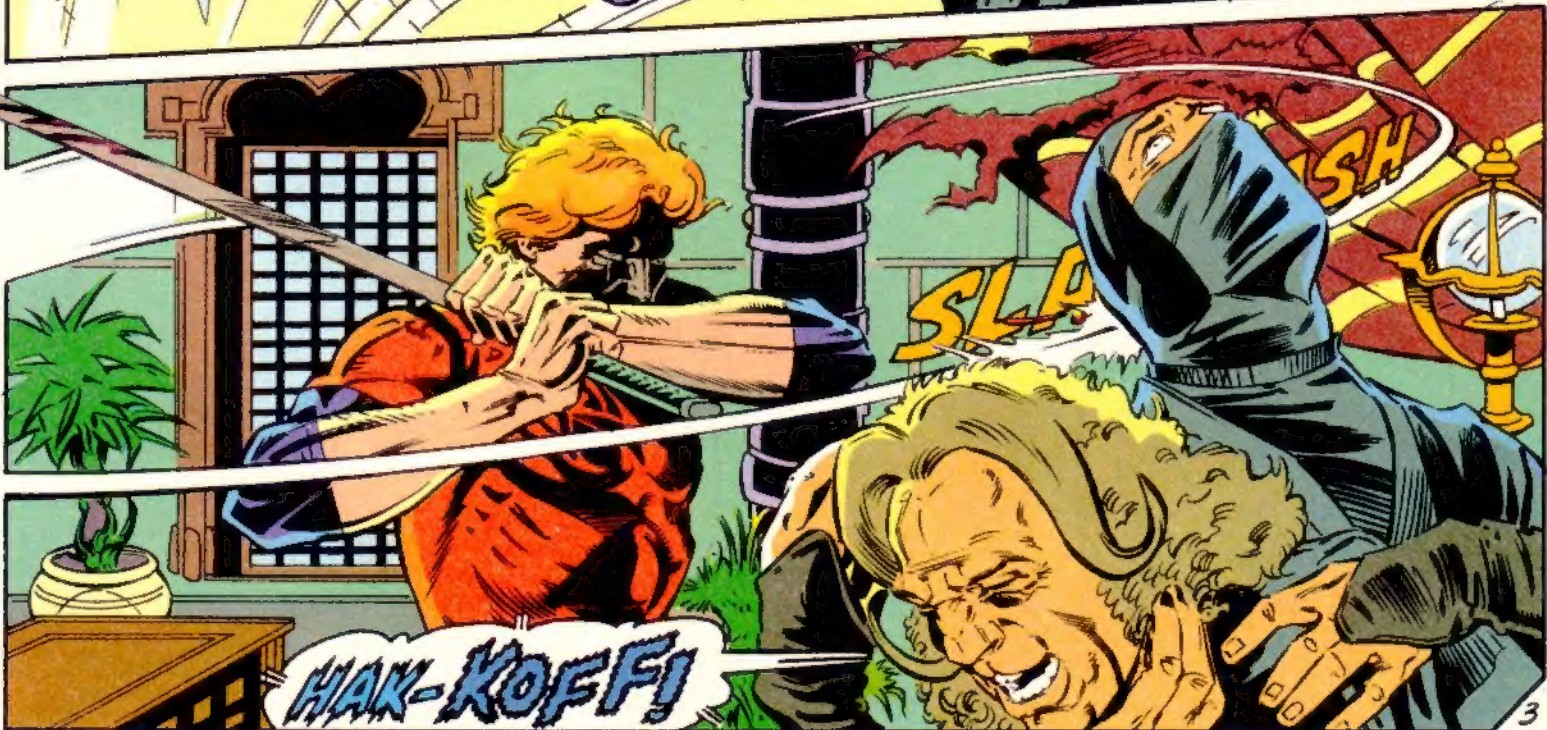
YOU.

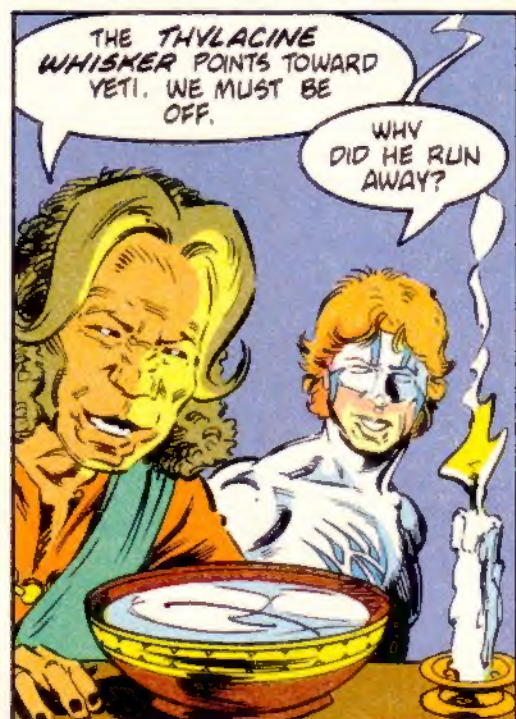
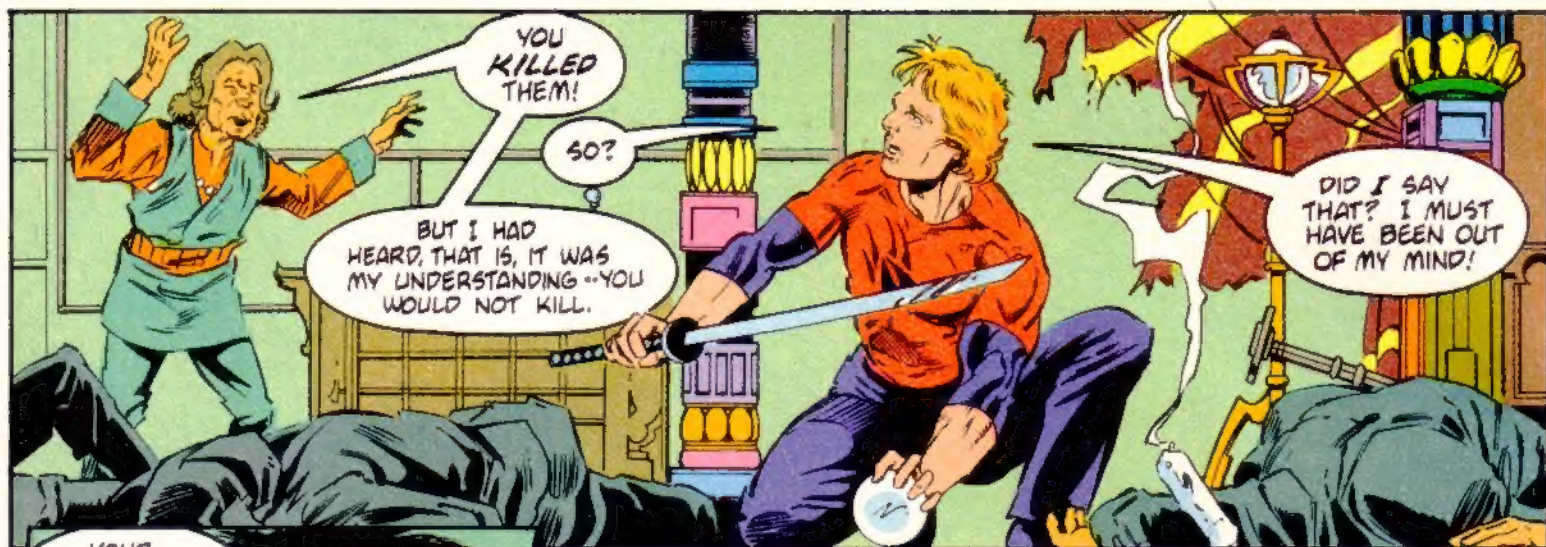
NOT SO
GOOD.

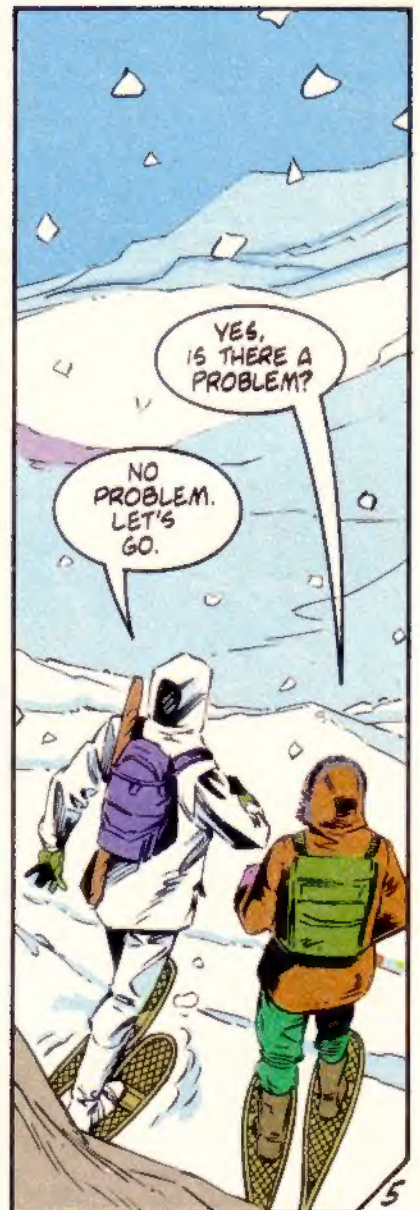
YOU'D
BETTER GRAB
A GUN OR
GET TO HIGH
GROUND.

WE'RE
ABOUT TO HAVE
VISITORS.









FIFTY MILES AWAY.

THERE IT IS. SET 'ER DOWN, KIM.

I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD NOT HAVE LEFT THIS TO SUNG'S TEAM.

THE PROBLEM ISN'T SUNG--IT'S THE BLOODY BADGER. FLIPPIN' LUNATIC FROM THE AMERICAN MIDWEST, BASHING AROUND IBOB LIKE A BLOODY BULL IN A CHINA SHOP.

WE SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM WHEN WE HAD THE CHANCE. BUT WE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THE WOMBAT WOULD SEND HIM HERE!*

*LAST ISSUE--RAO.

YEP--BEEN THERE, DONE THAT. A DAY LATE AN' A BLEEDIN' DOLLAR SHORT, THAT'S THE NAME O' THE GAME, MATE.

WE CAN STILL CATCH THEM--LET US CHECK THE LAMASERY.

LONG GONE. AN' WE'D BETTER GET GONE TOO. BLOODY SHAMBLES! THREE IBOB ASSASSINS CAN'T DEAL WITH AN OLD MAN AND A LUNATIC.

THE "OLD MAN" IS ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL WIZARDS LEFT. HE IS FORMIDABLE EVEN WITHOUT THE BLACK CURRENT. AND THE "LUNATIC," AS YOU CALL HIM--WHO KNOWS WHAT HE REALLY IS.

HE HAS POWER. WHEN I KILL HIM, HIS POWER WILL FLOW INTO ME.

KIM--WE FOUND THE BODIES. THEY'RE OUTSIDE IN A SHED.

TRACKS?

THE SNOW AND WIND HAVE REMOVED THEM.

THEN I MUST ASK YOU TO GO AHEAD.

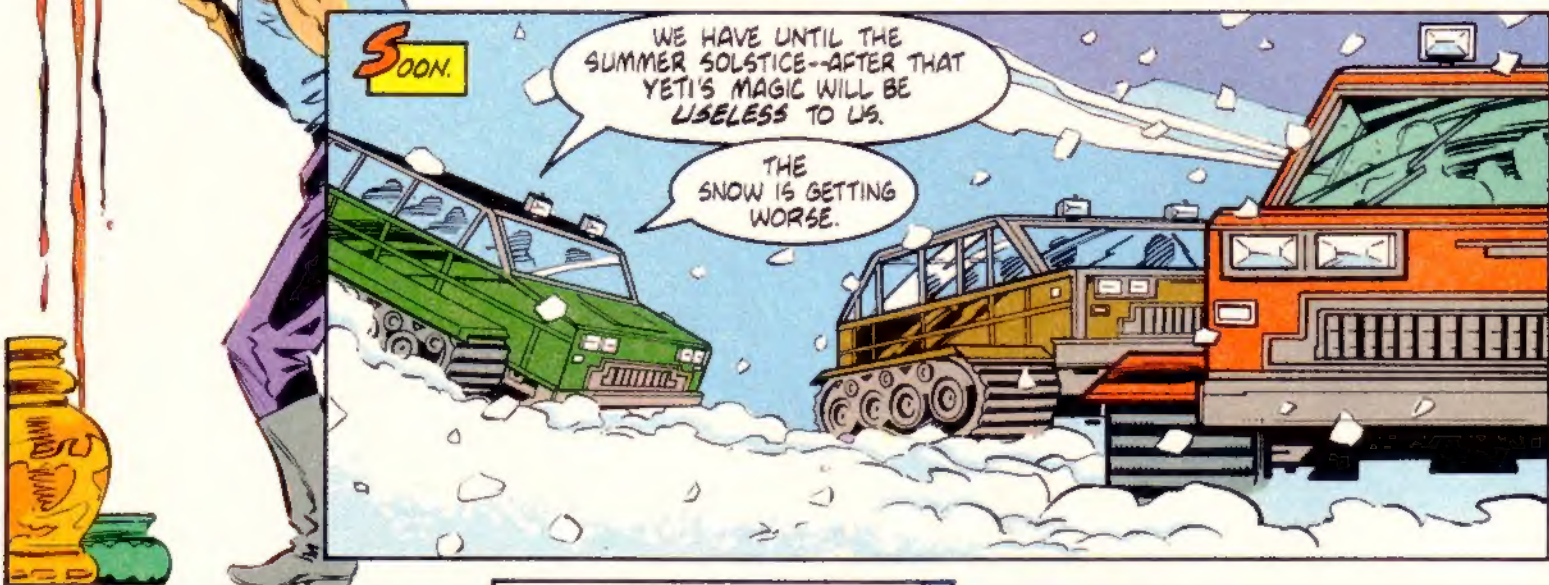




HMM...

I SEE OUR ROUTE.

THE SUPPLY COPTER'S ARRIVING WITH THE REST OF THE MEN.



SOON.

WE HAVE UNTIL THE SUMMER SOLSTICE--AFTER THAT YETI'S MAGIC WILL BE USELESS TO US.

THE SNOW IS GETTING WORSE.



FAR AHEAD.

MAN, I REALLY HATE THIS WEATHER. DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOING?

I WAS THERE ONCE, ABOUT 200 YEARS AGO, BUT I DO NOT KNOW THE WAY... THAT IS WHY YOU ARE HERE.

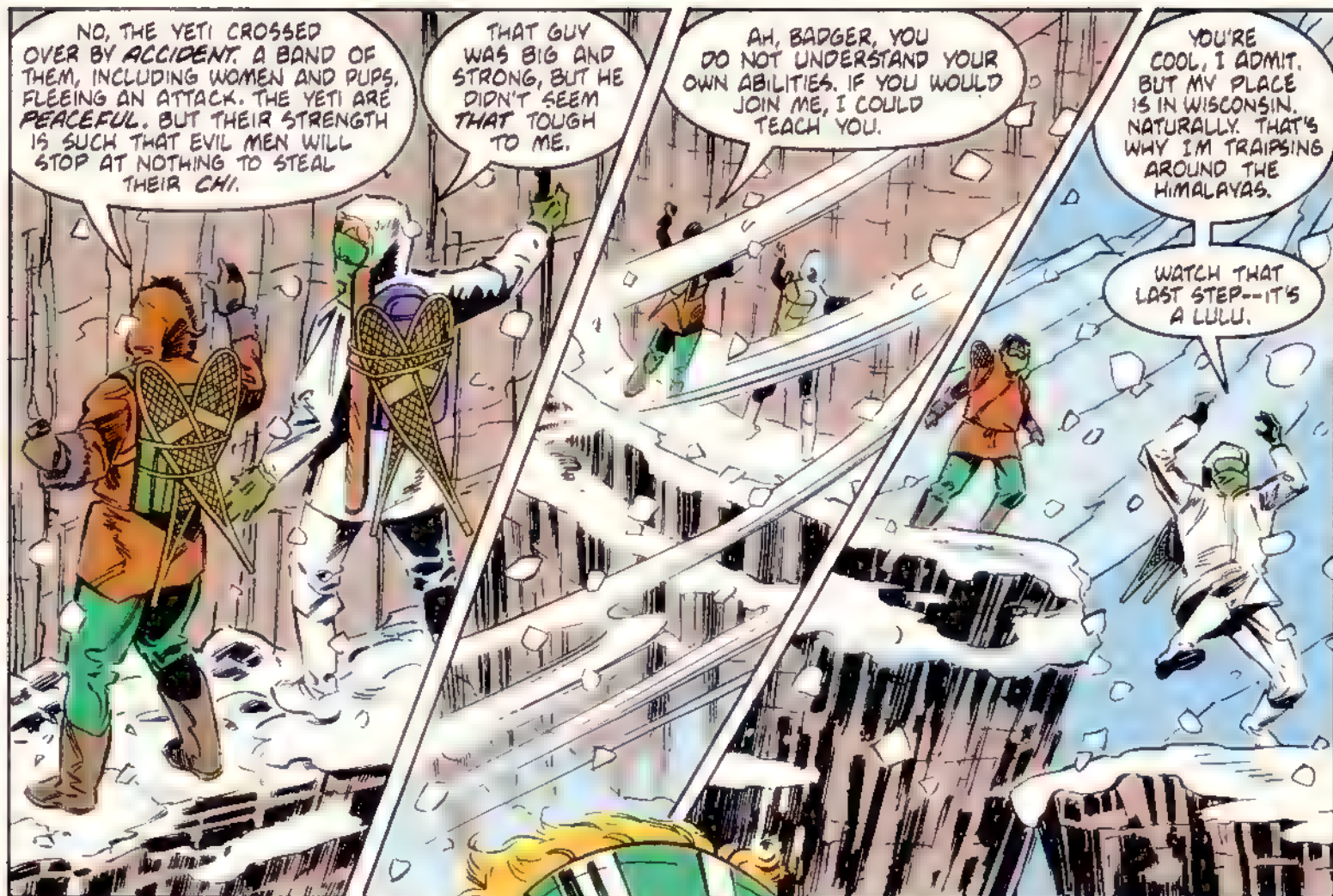
I'M JUST WANDERIN' IN THE SNOW--OOOHHH--OH-- NO PARTICULAR PLACE TO GOOOO--OH--OHHH--

IT IS THE PLACE THE YETI BUILT WHEN THEY FIRST CAME. NOW THERE IS ONLY ONE.

WHY'D THEY COME?

IT WAS A TIME OF GREAT SORCERY--EXTRAVAGANT OUTBURSTS. HAM WAS VERY ACTIVE THEN. HE WAS A YOUNG MAN. THE BLATANT USE OF MAGIC RIPPED MANY HOLES IN THE FIRMAMENT--VARIOUS EVIL FORCES CROSSED OVER, LORD LUETERLACKUS AMONG THEM.

WERE THE YETI EVIL?



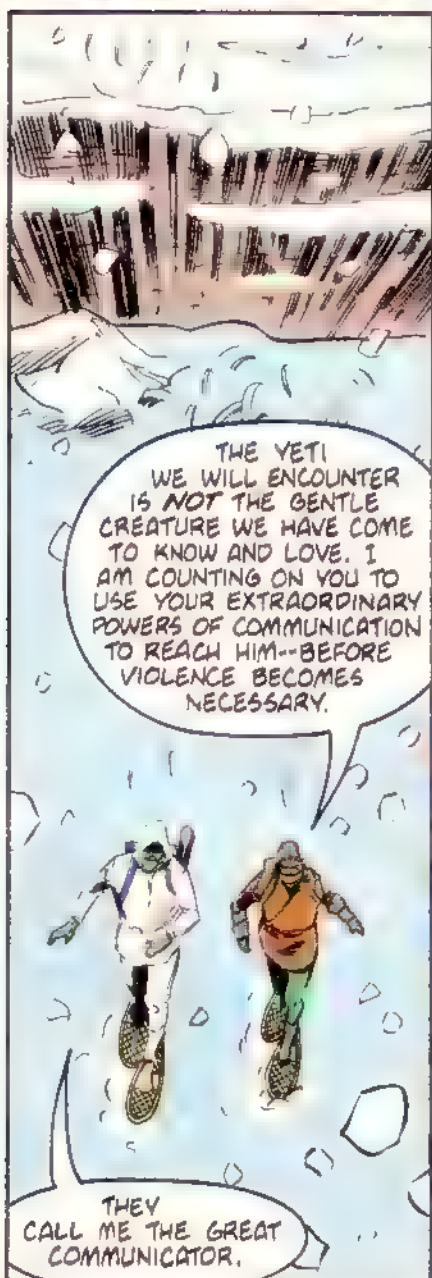
NO, THE YETI CROSSED OVER BY ACCIDENT. A BAND OF THEM, INCLUDING WOMEN AND PUPS, FLEEING AN ATTACK. THE YETI ARE PEACEFUL. BUT THEIR STRENGTH IS SUCH THAT EVIL MEN WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO STEAL THEIR CHI.

THAT GUY WAS BIG AND STRONG, BUT HE DIDN'T SEEM THAT TOUGH TO ME.

AH, BADGER, YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN ABILITIES. IF YOU WOULD JOIN ME, I COULD TEACH YOU.

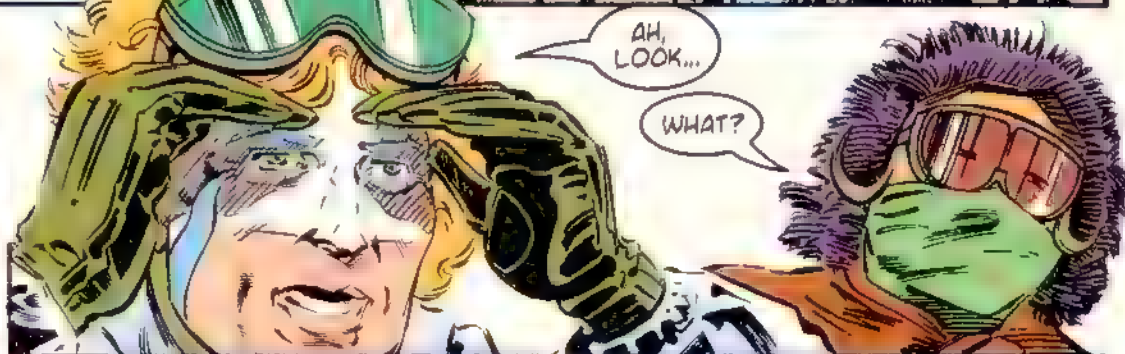
YOU'RE COOL, I ADMIT. BUT MY PLACE IS IN WISCONSIN. NATURALLY. THAT'S WHY I'M TRAIPSING AROUND THE HIMALAYAS.

WATCH THAT LAST STEP--IT'S A LULU.



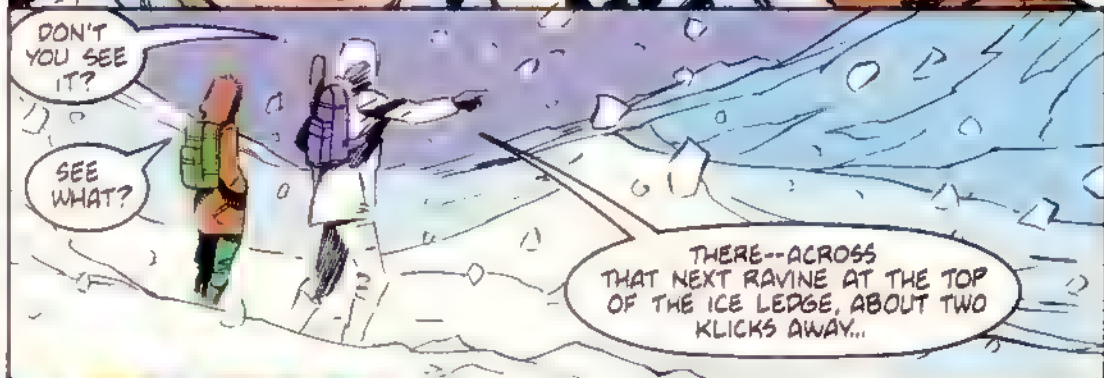
THE YETI WE WILL ENCOUNTER IS NOT THE GENTLE CREATURE WE HAVE COME TO KNOW AND LOVE. I AM COUNTING ON YOU TO USE YOUR EXTRAORDINARY POWERS OF COMMUNICATION TO REACH HIM--BEFORE VIOLENCE BECOMES NECESSARY.

THEY CALL ME THE GREAT COMMUNICATOR.



AH, LOOK...

WHAT?



DON'T YOU SEE IT?

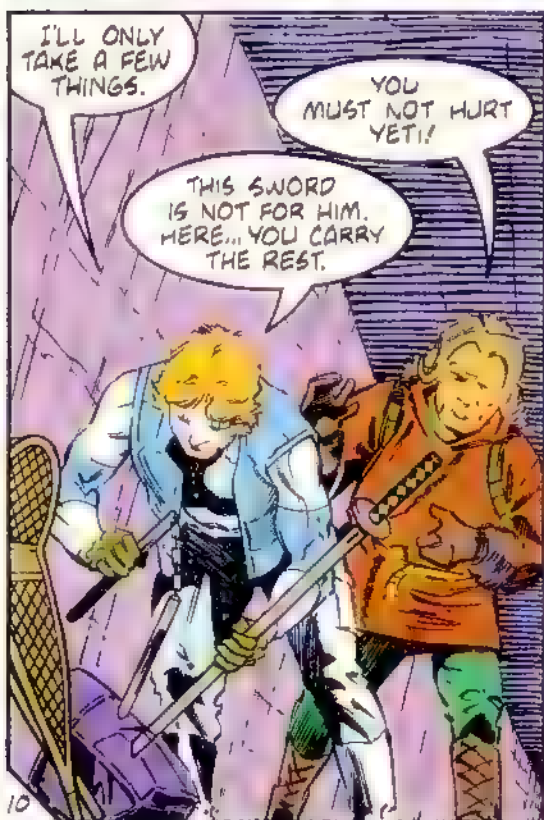
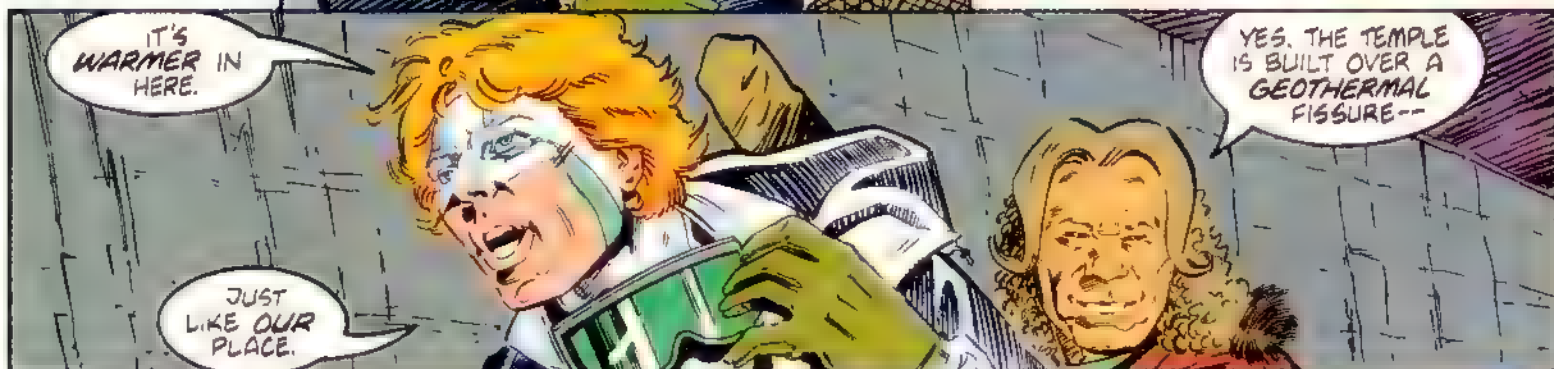
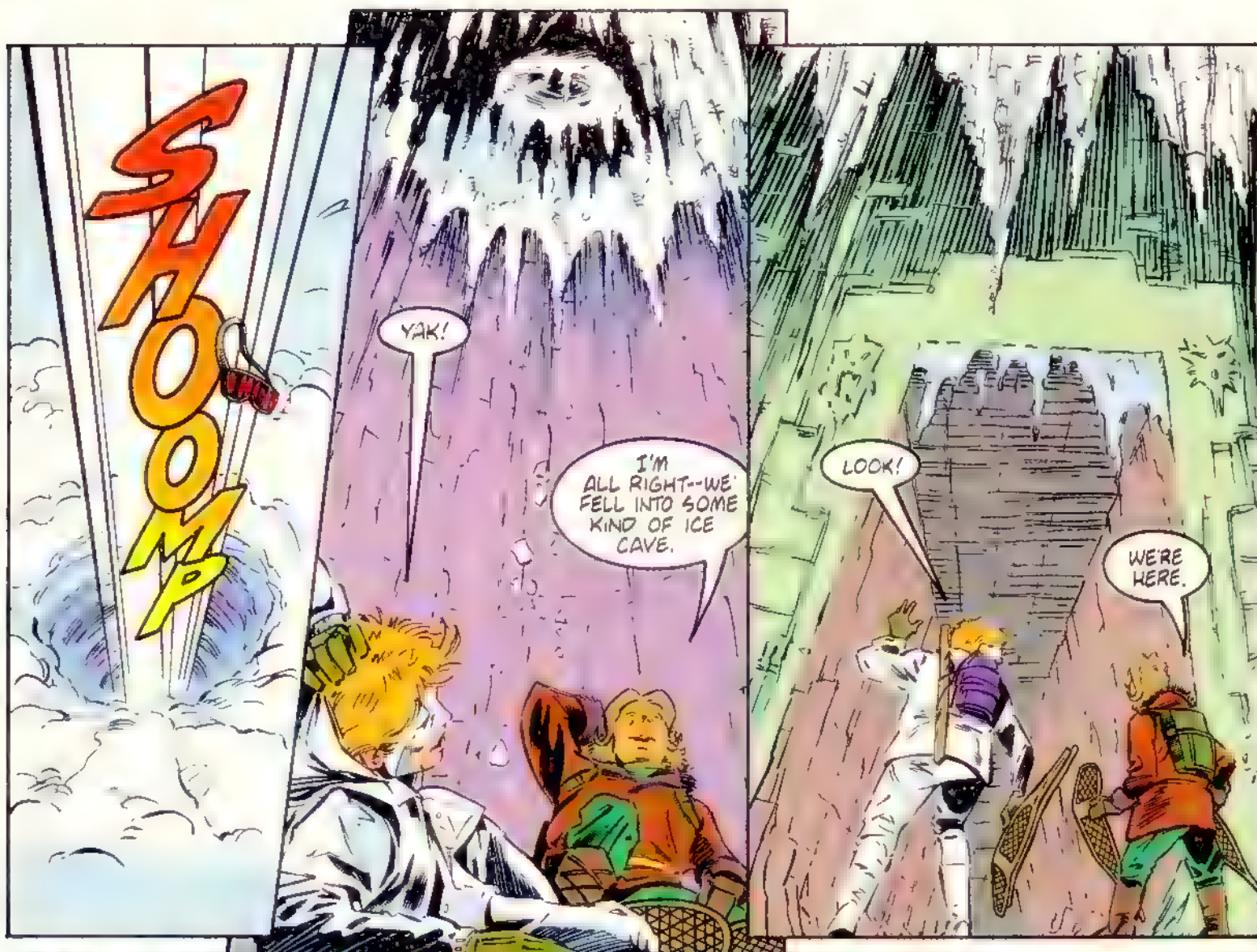
SEE WHAT?

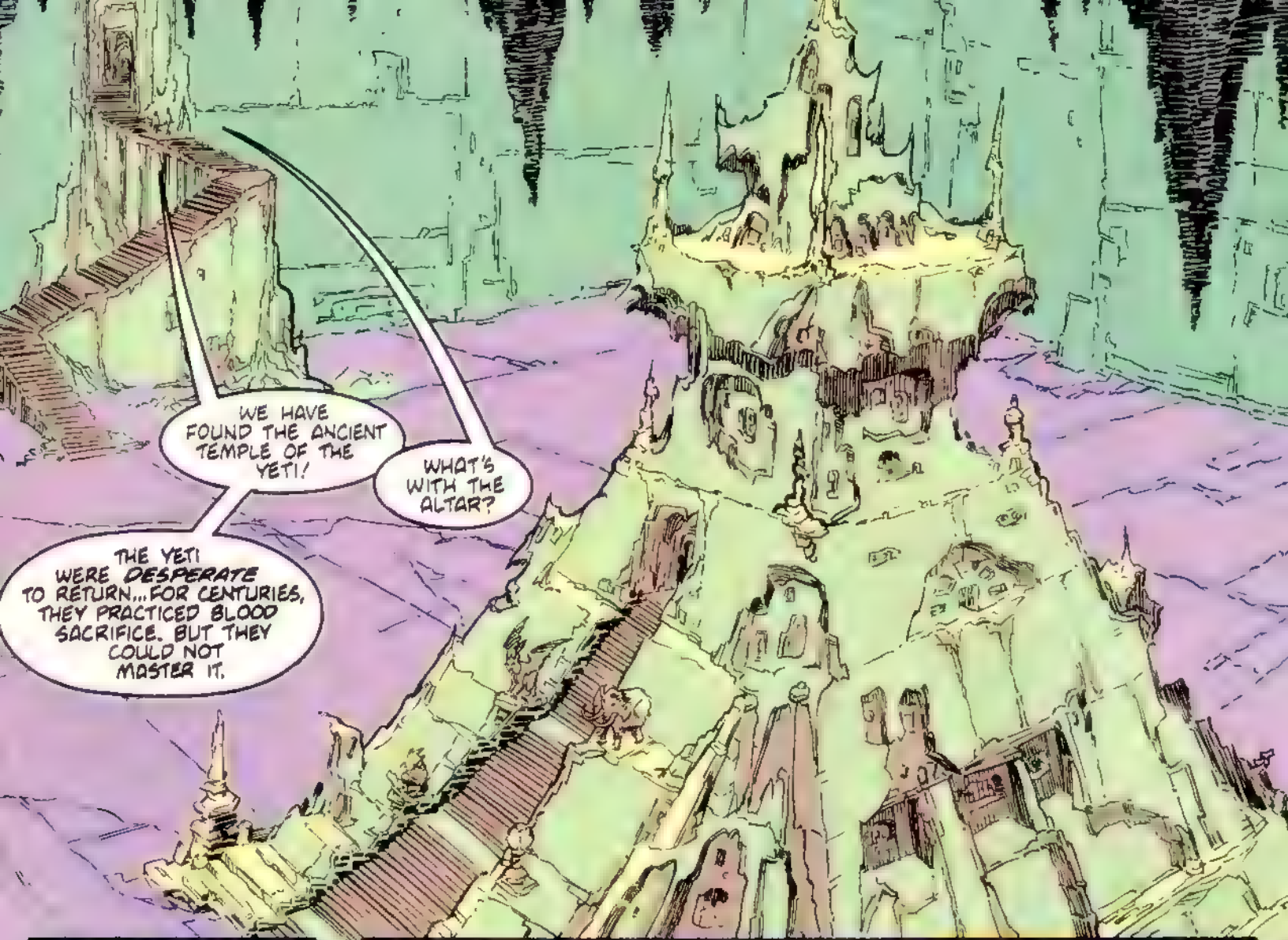
THERE--ACROSS THAT NEXT RAVINE AT THE TOP OF THE ICE LEDGE, ABOUT TWO CLICKS AWAY...



45 MINUTES LATER.

THE TIGER WHISKER. WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

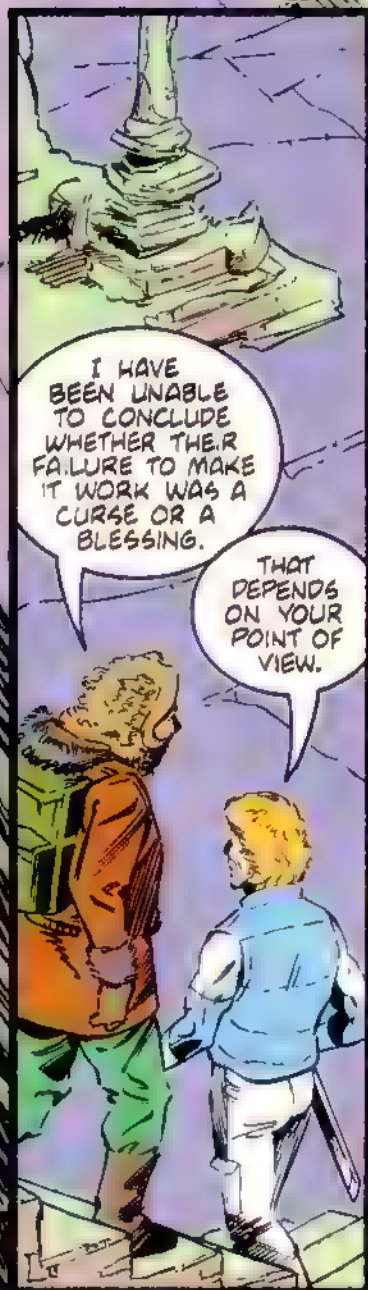




WE HAVE
FOUND THE ANCIENT
TEMPLE OF THE
YETI!

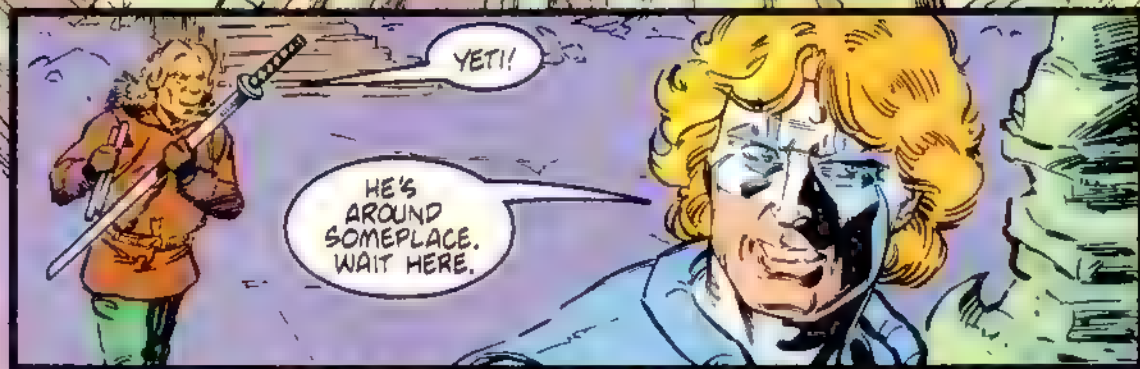
WHAT'S
WITH THE
ALTAR?

THE YETI
WERE **DESPERATE**
TO RETURN...FOR CENTURIES,
THEY PRACTICED BLOOD
SACRIFICE. BUT THEY
COULD NOT
MASTER IT.



I HAVE
BEEN UNABLE
TO CONCLUDE
WHETHER THEIR
FAILURE TO MAKE
IT WORK WAS A
CURSE OR A
BLESSING.

THAT
DEPENDS
ON YOUR
POINT OF
VIEW.



YETI!

HE'S
AROUND
SOMEPLACE.
WAIT HERE.

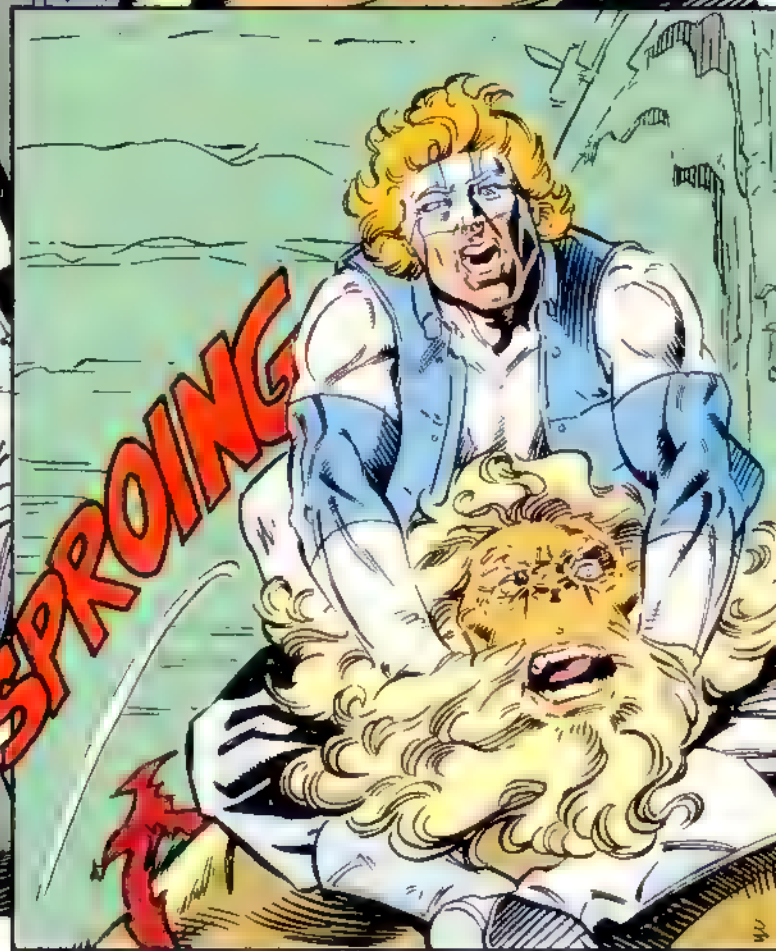
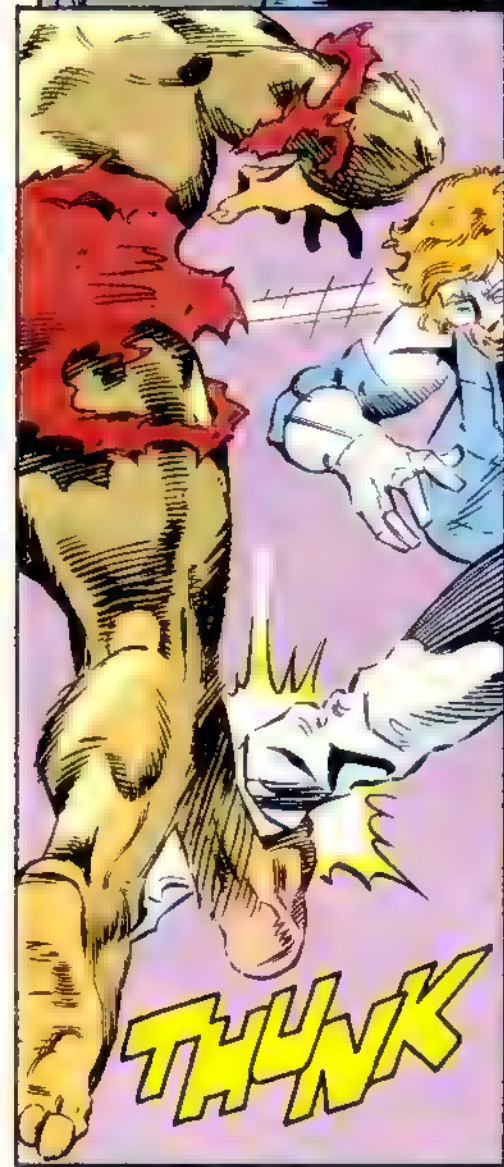


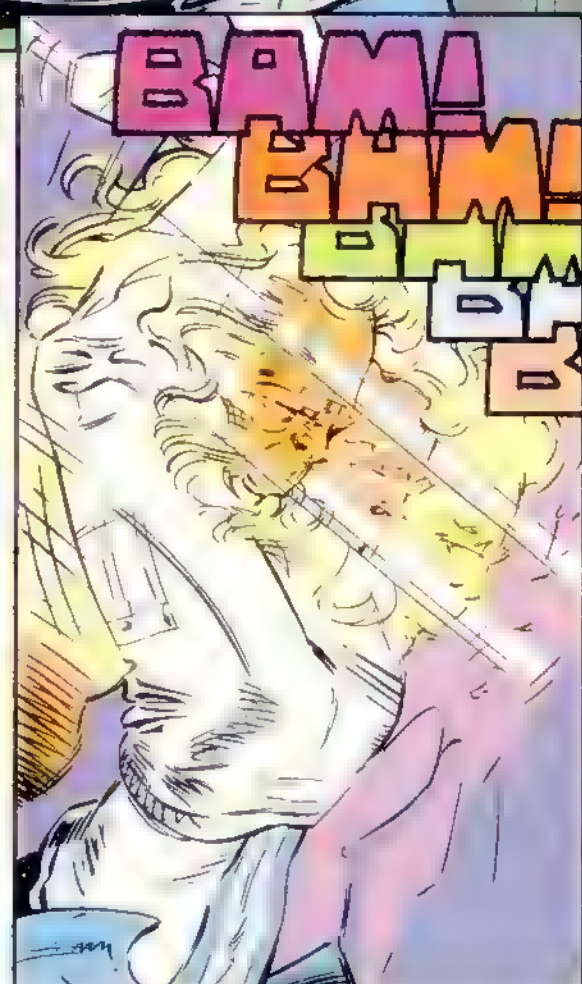
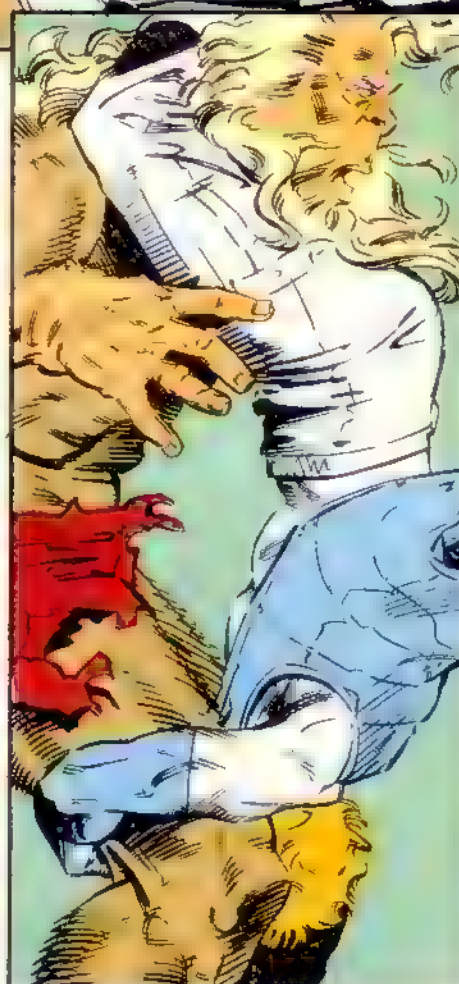
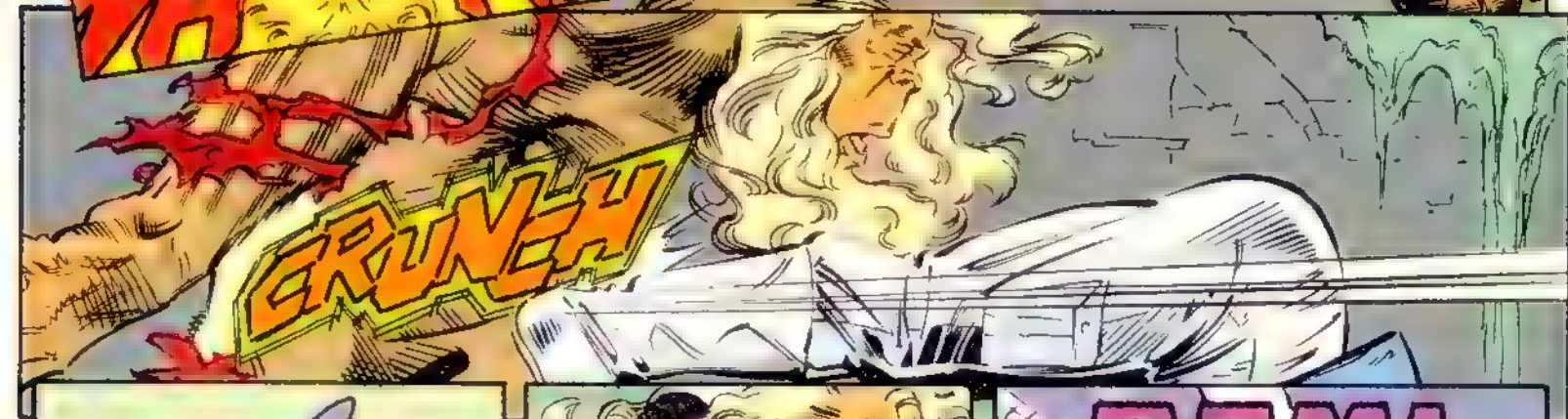
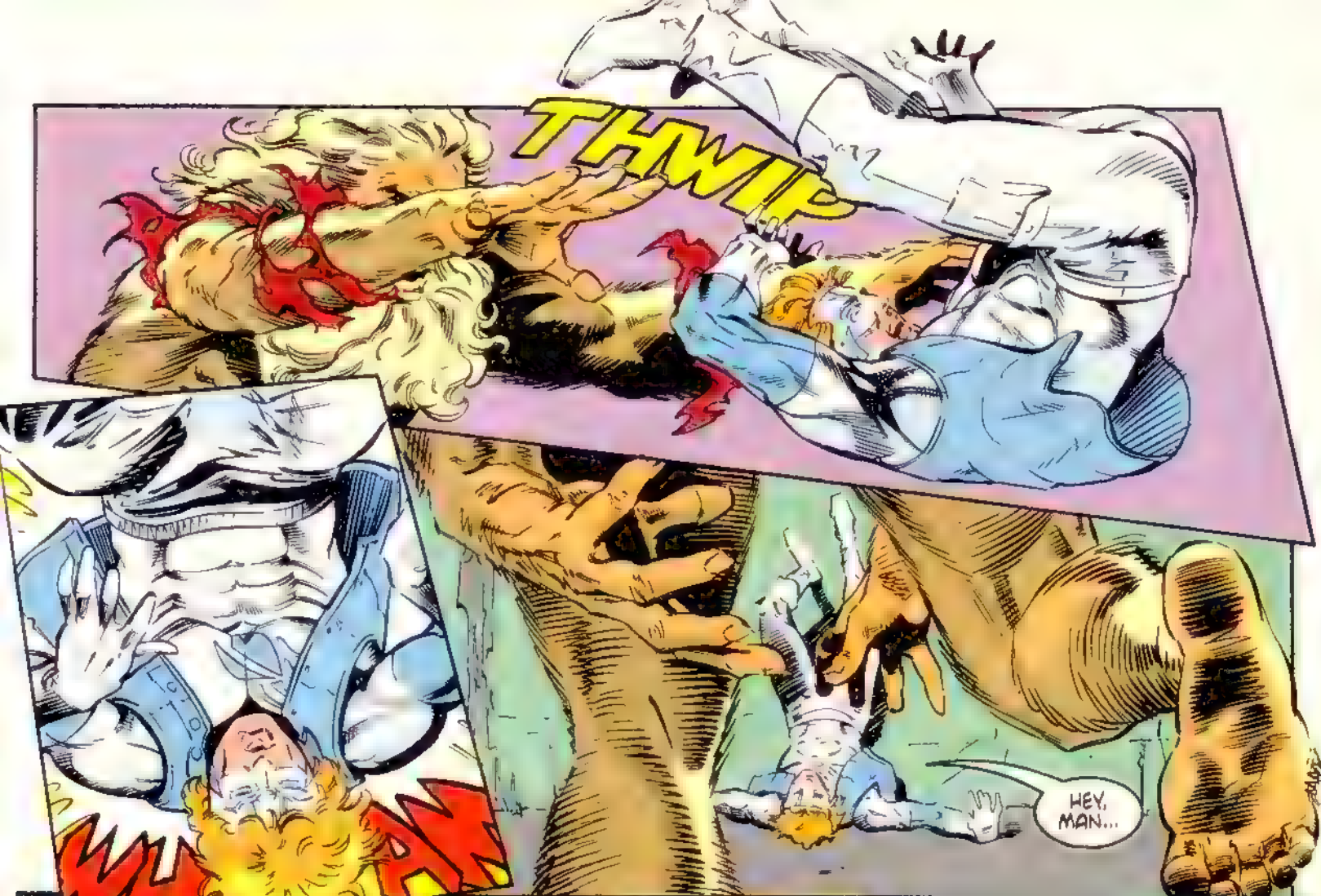
THEY
SEEK HIM
HERE, THEY
SEEK HIM
THERE...

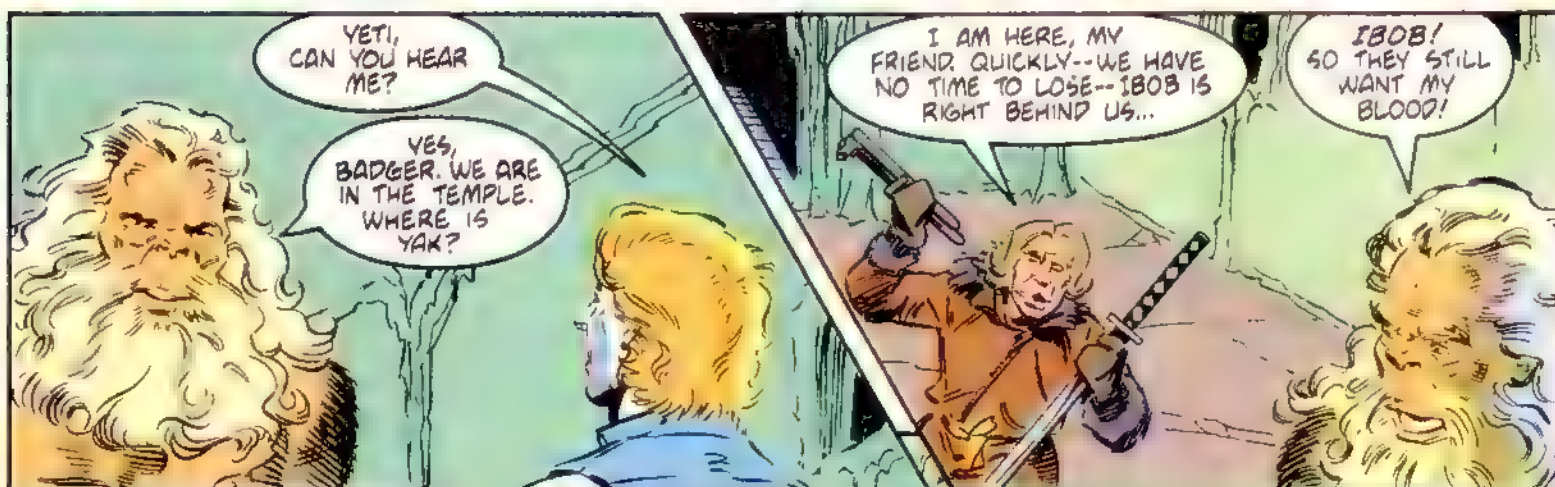
THEY
SEEK THAT
SNOWMAN
EVERYWHERE!

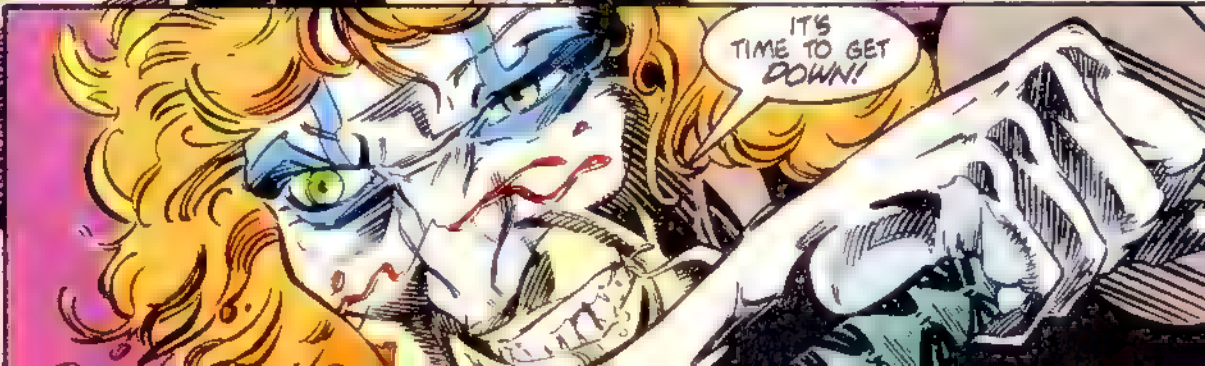
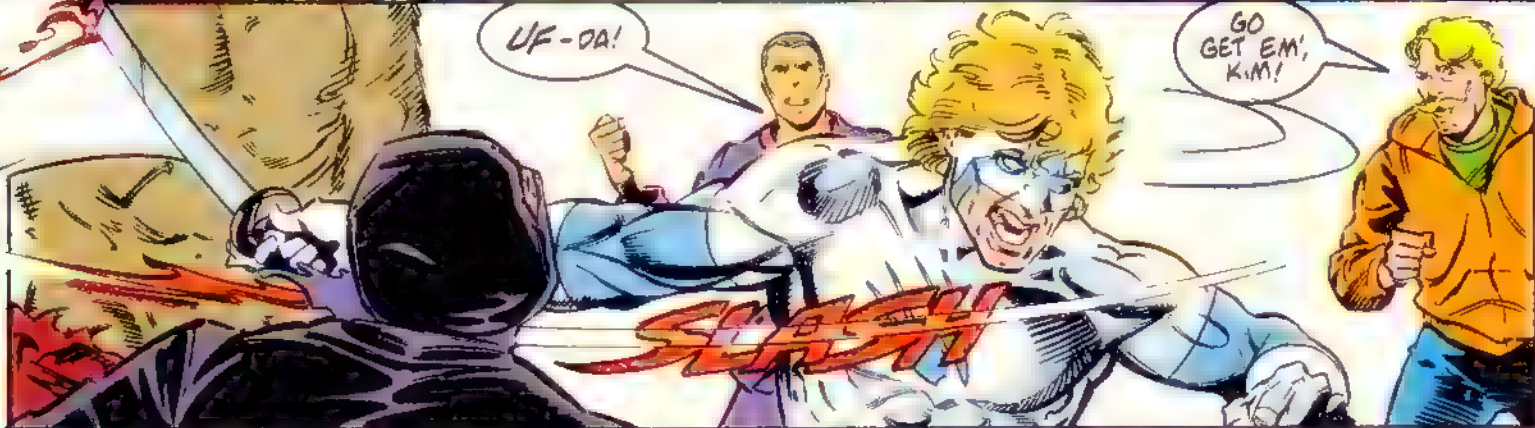
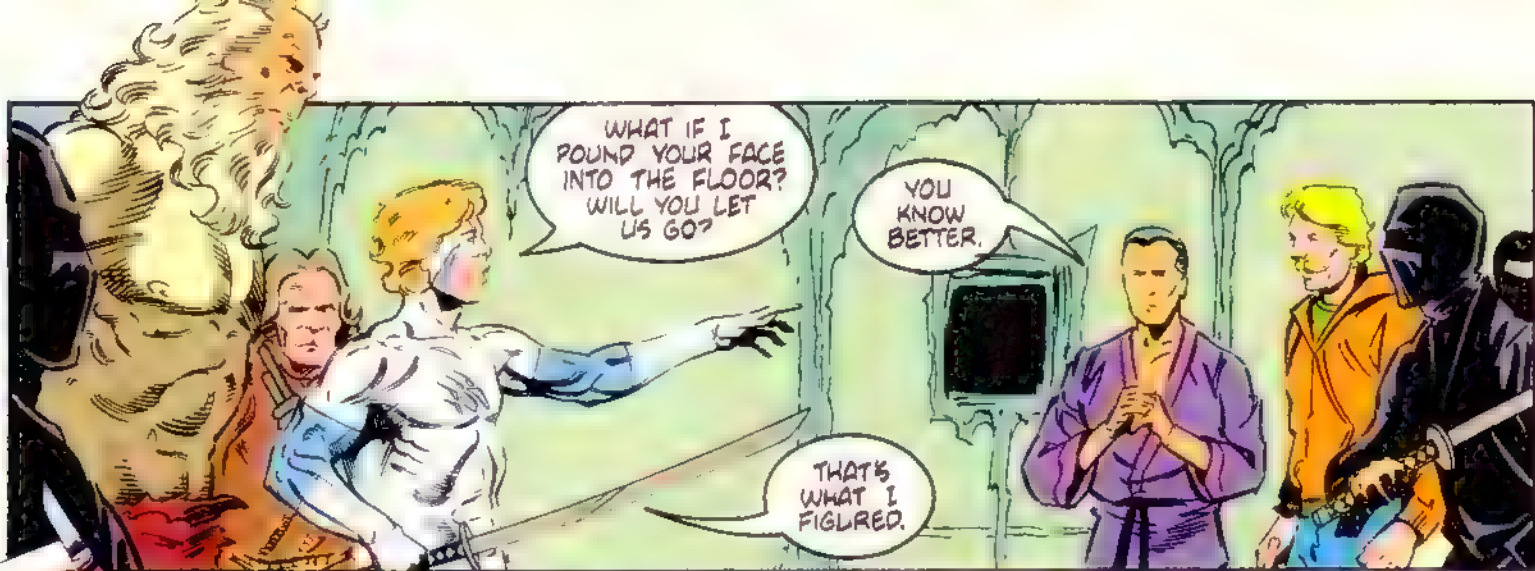


IS HE IN
YOUNGSTOWN--
OR CINCINNATI?
THAT DAMNED,
ELUSIVE,
TWO-TON
YETI?











COME AND
TAKE MY BLOOD,
LITTLE LEECHES!
LITTLE SLUGS!

OH!

SCHLICK!

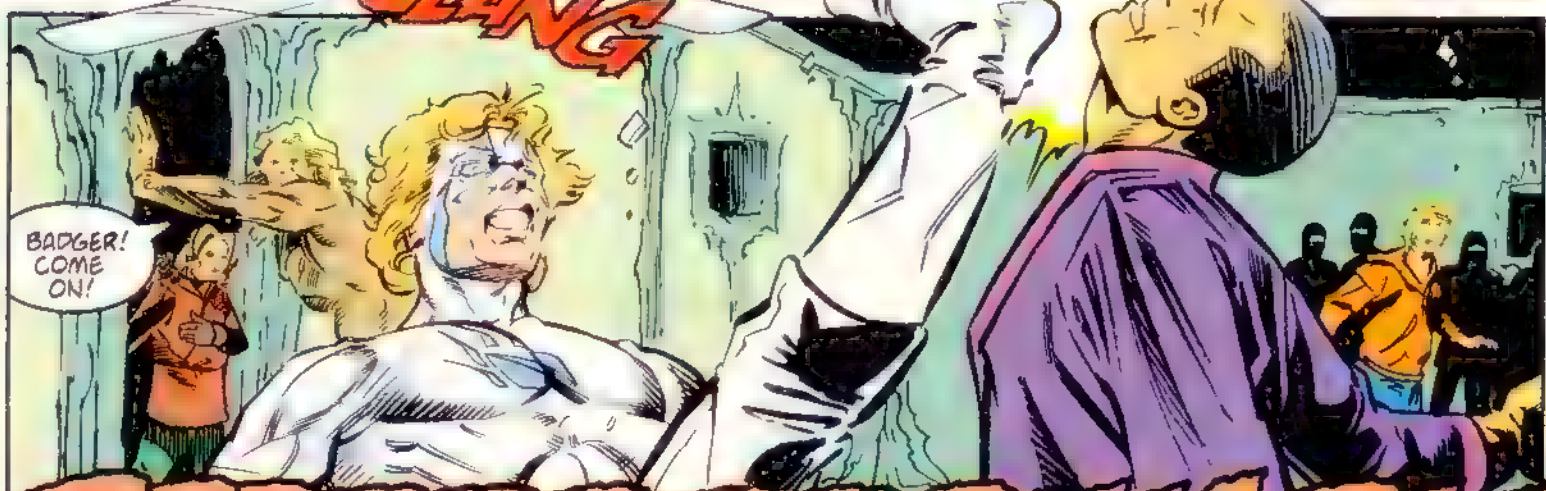
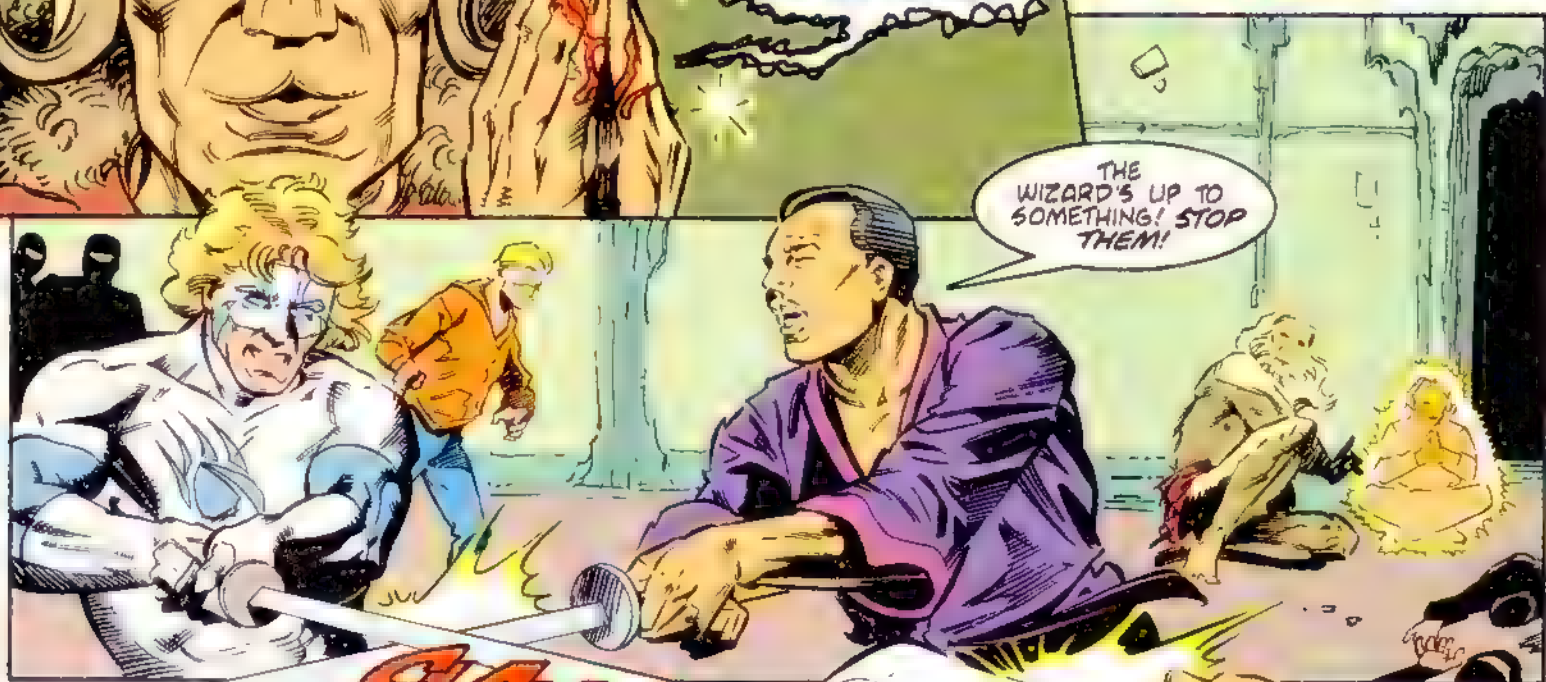
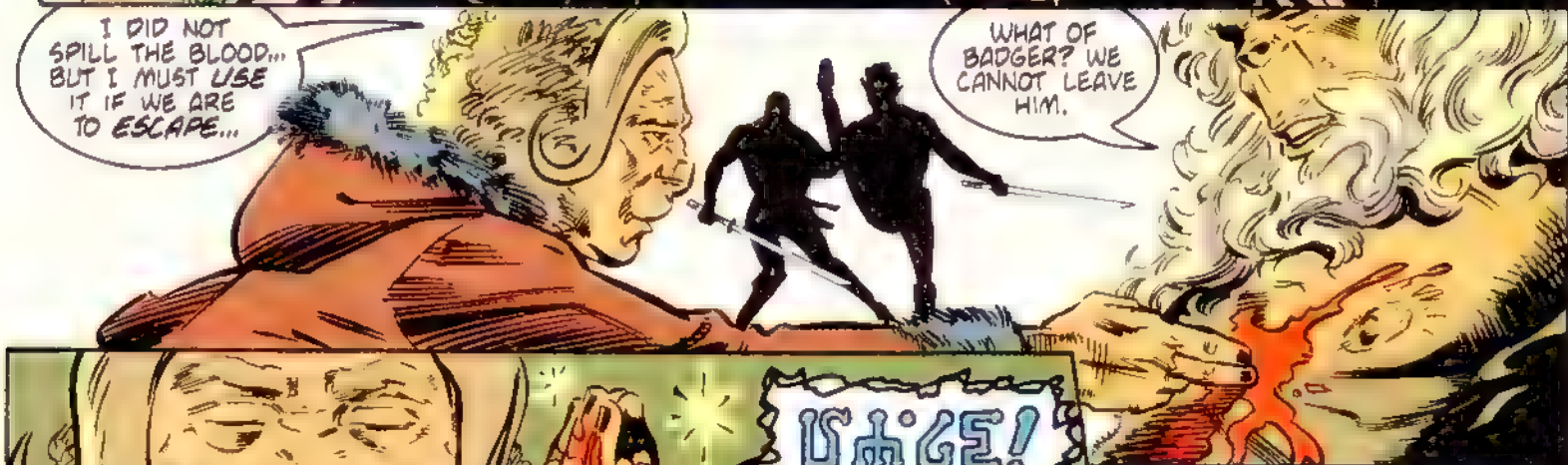
YETI!

GAK!
CHOKE!

SCHLICK!

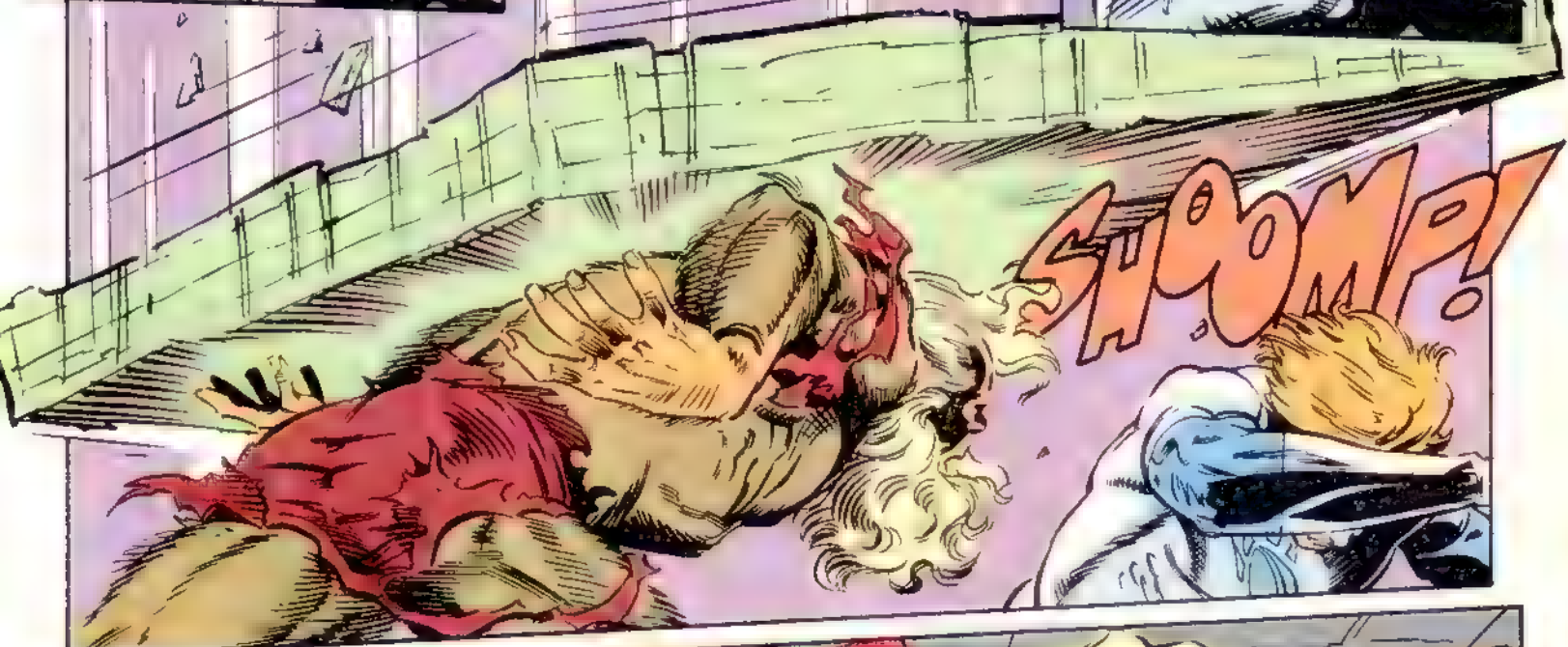
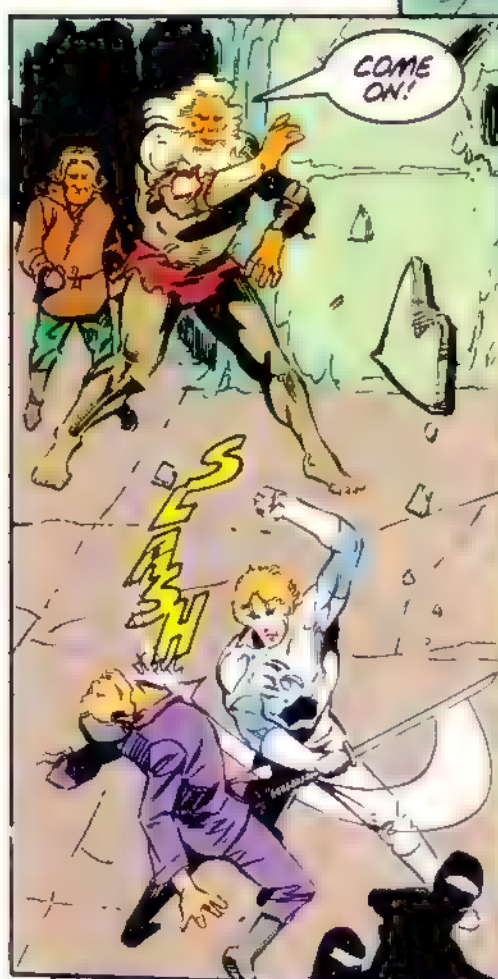
WHAM

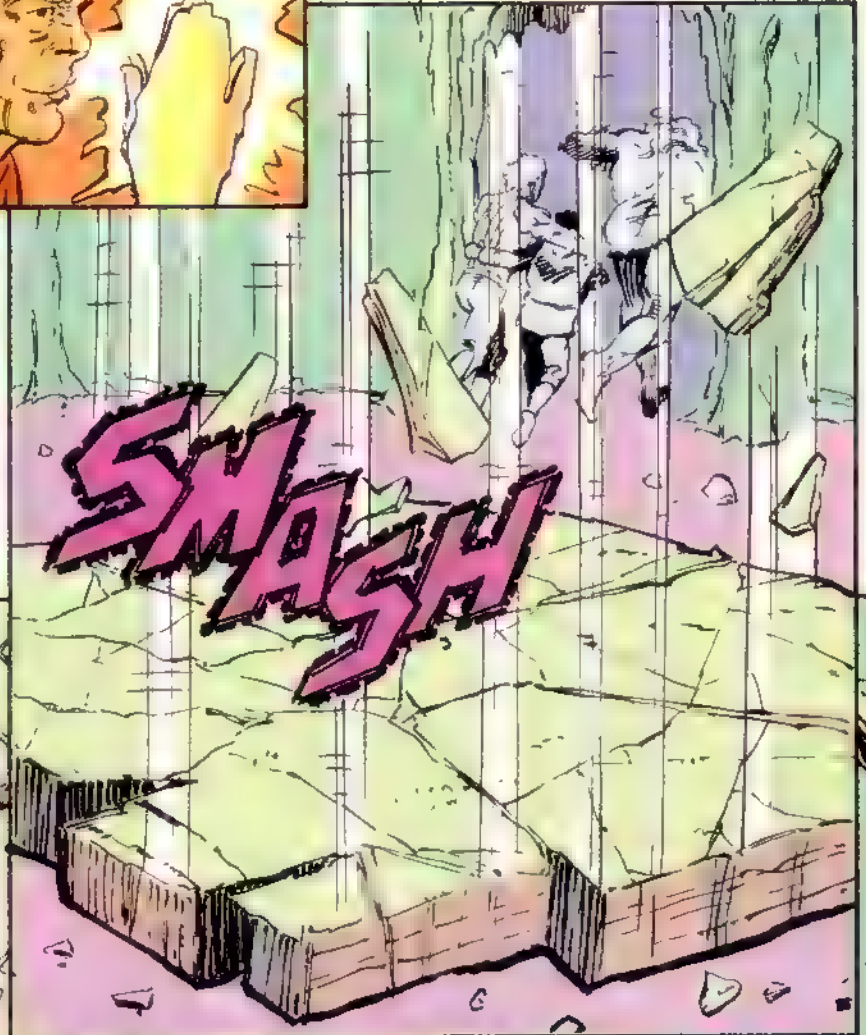
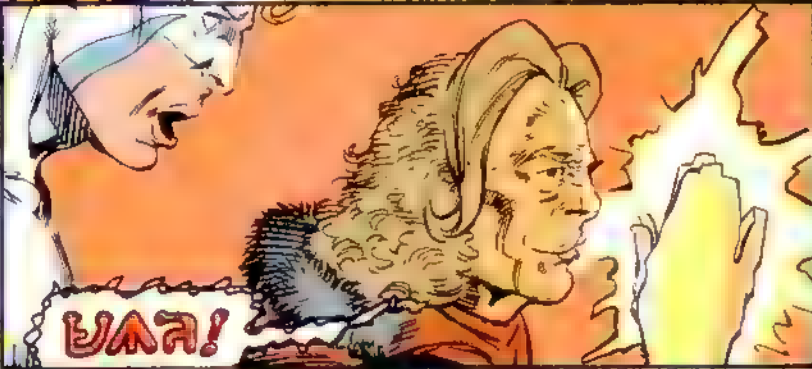
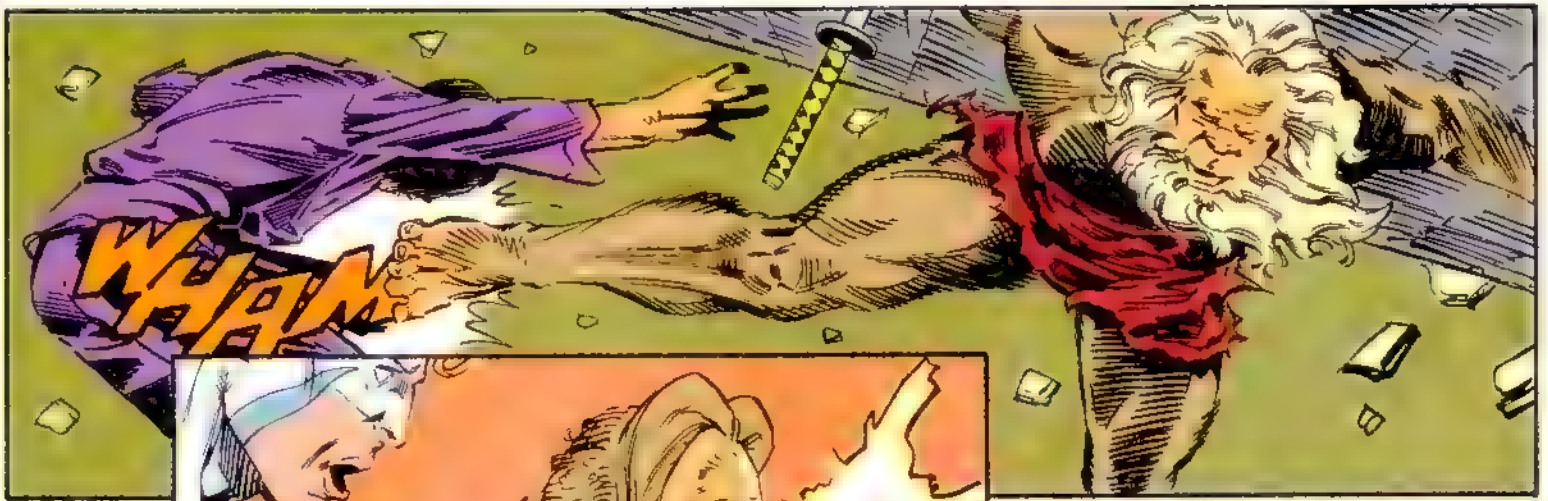
SWISHH

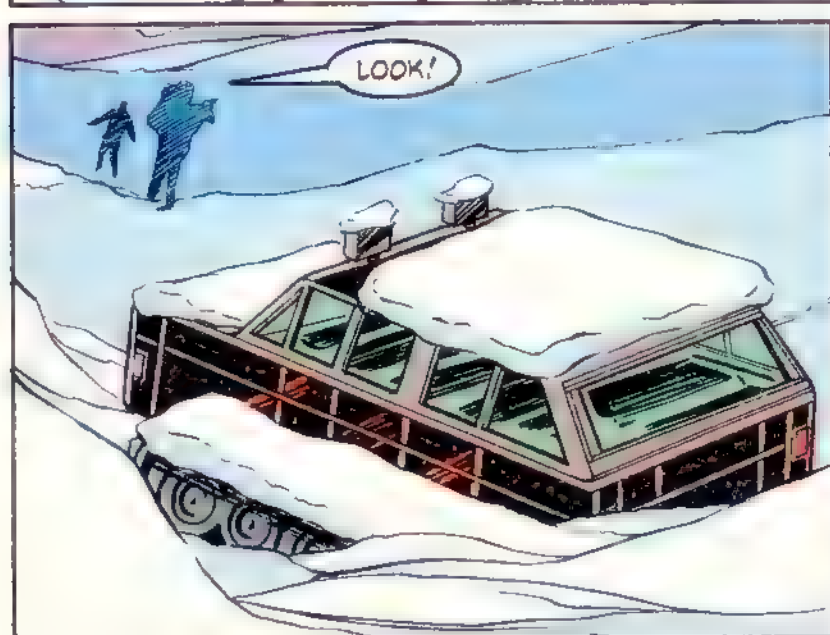
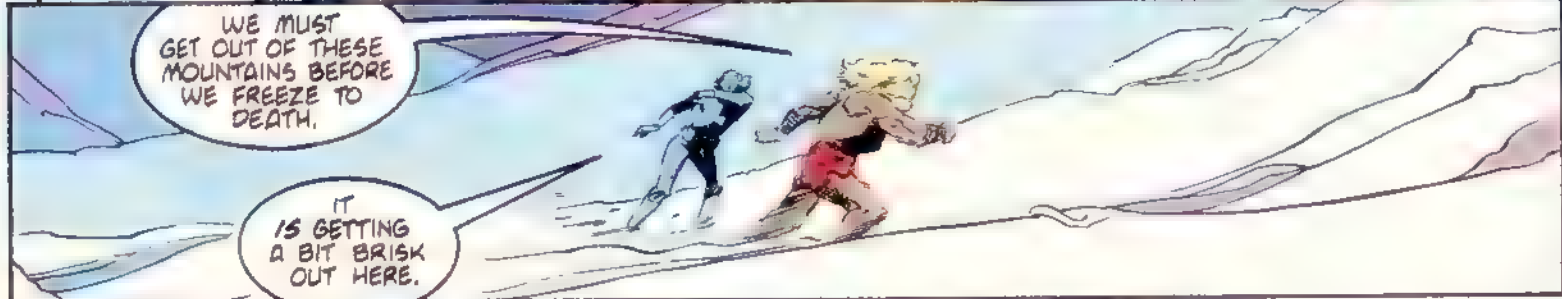
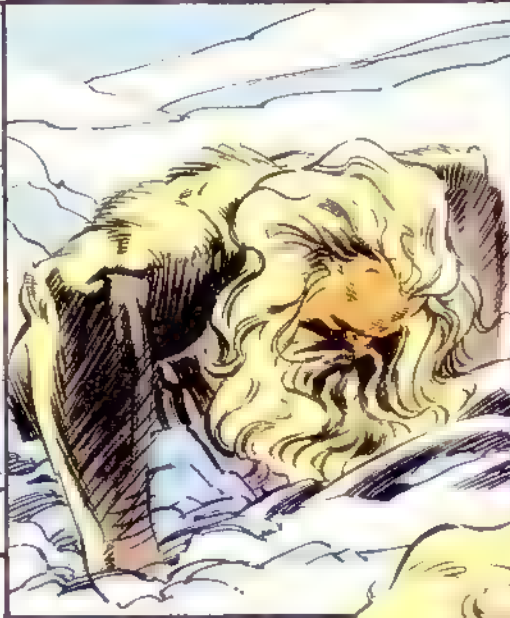
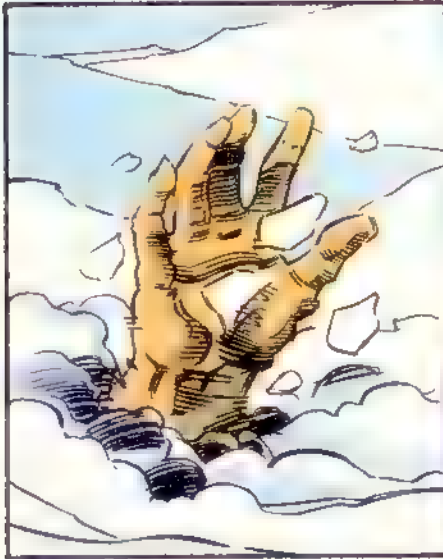
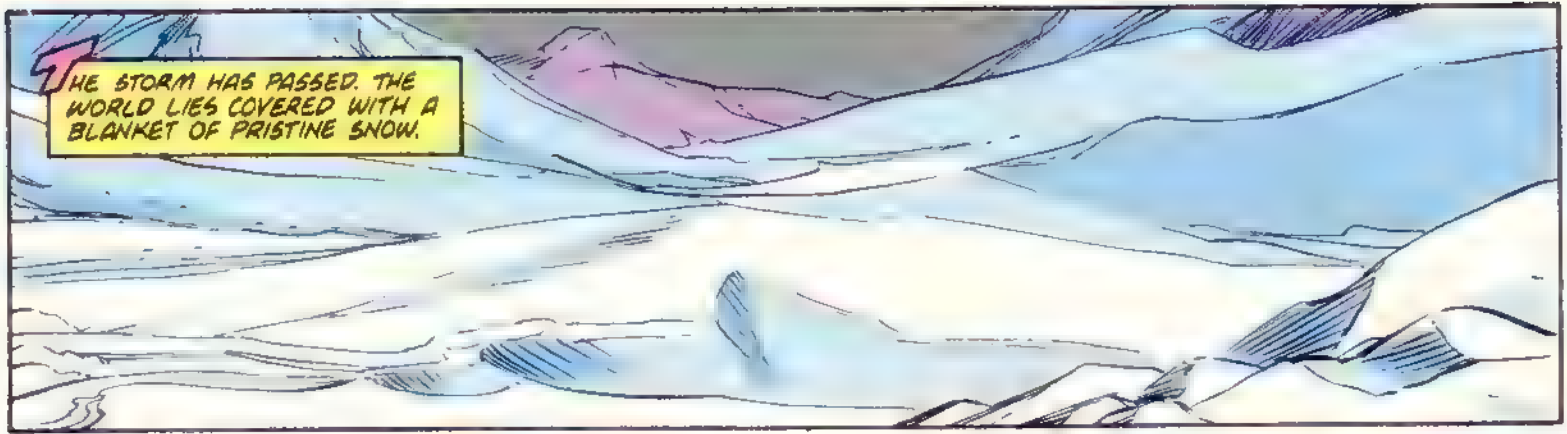


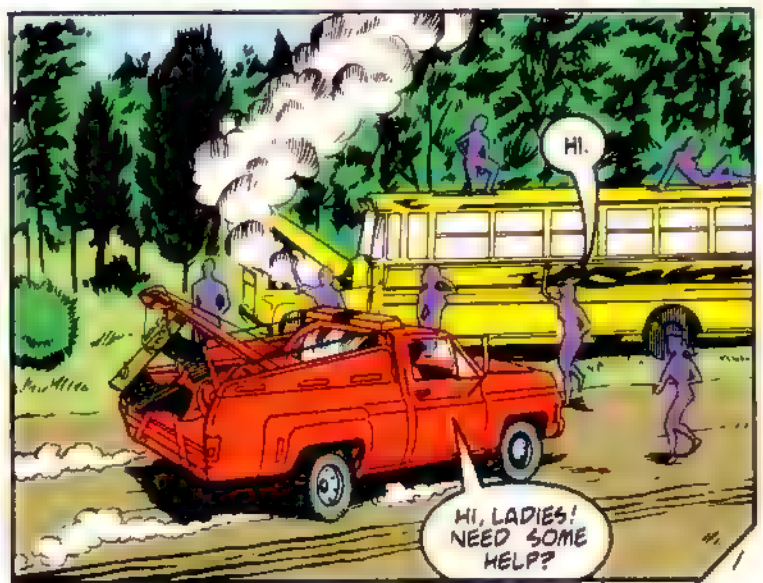
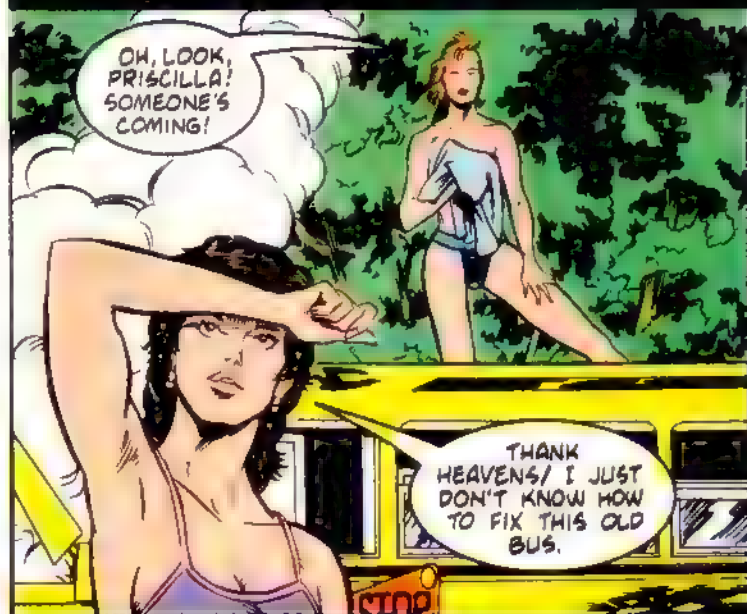
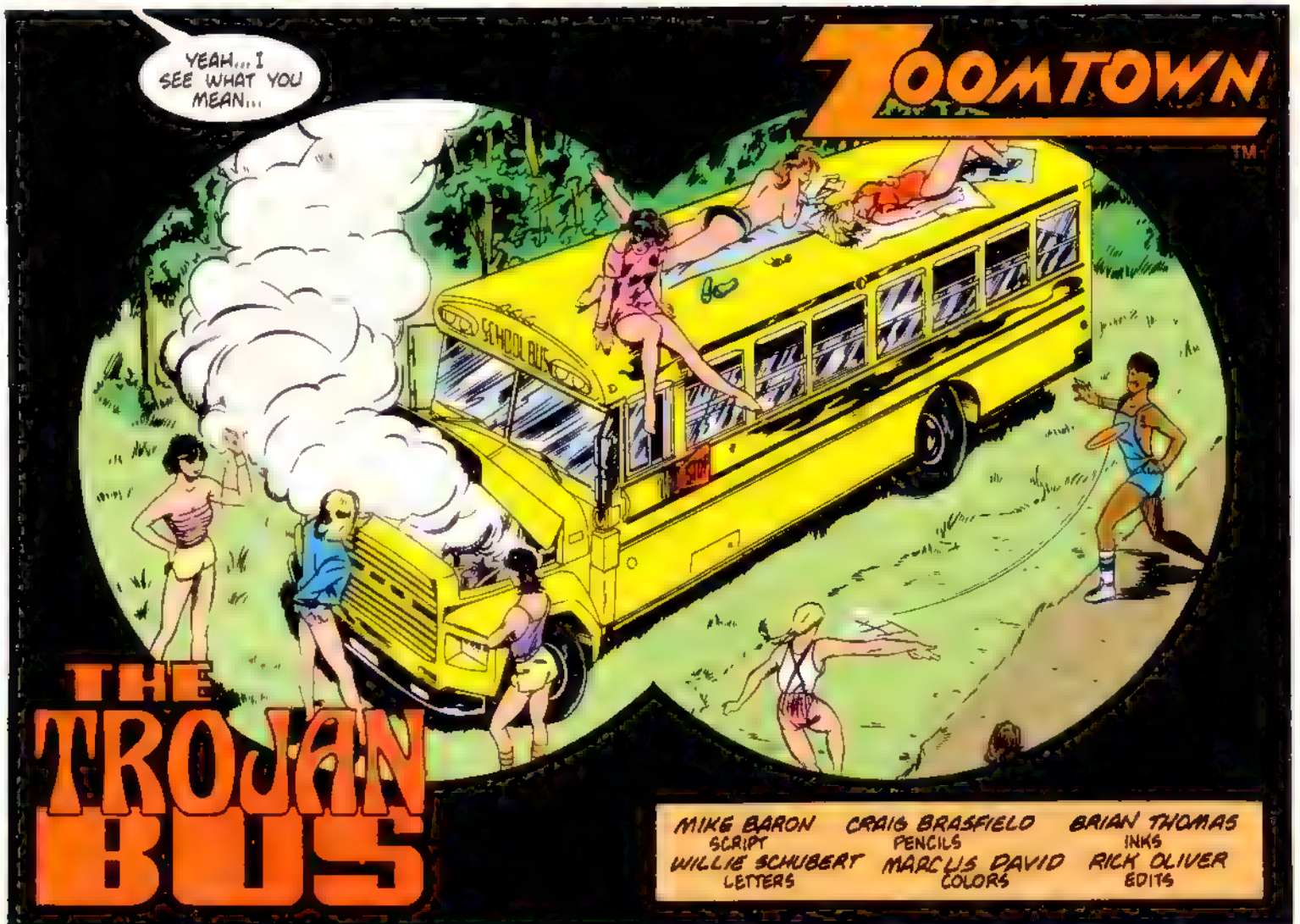
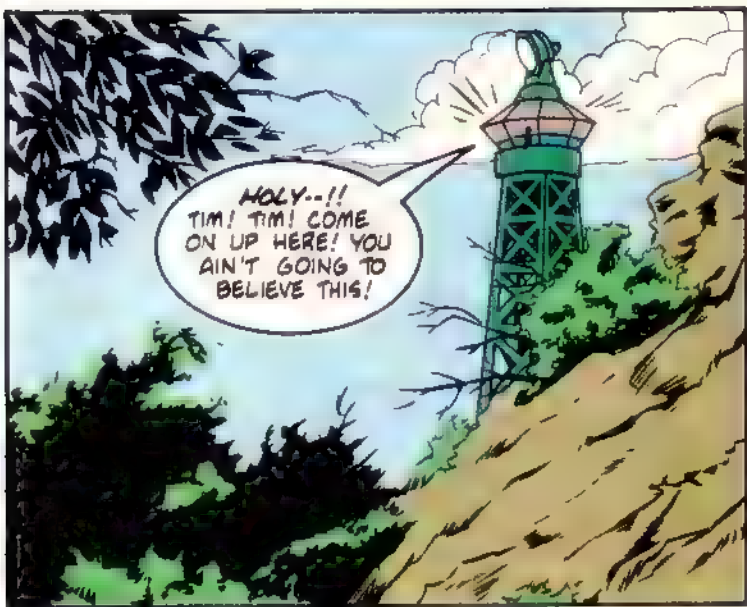
RRRRRRRRRUMBLE

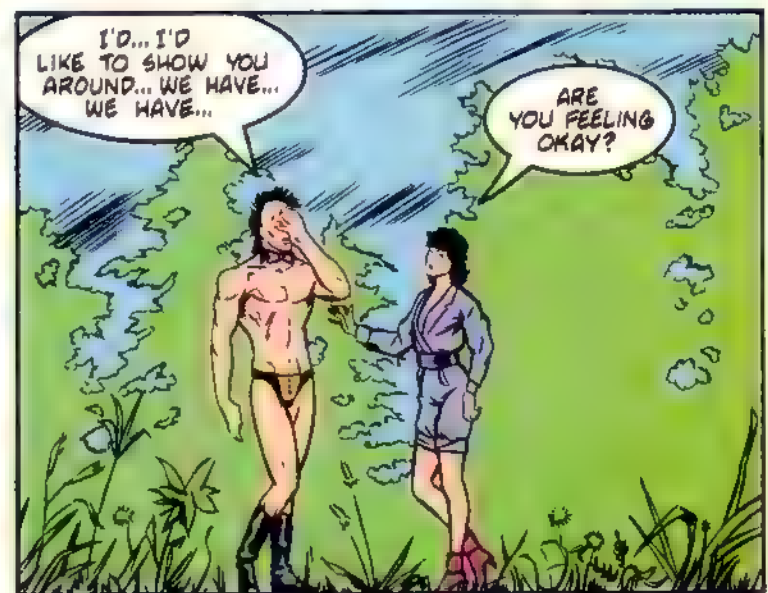
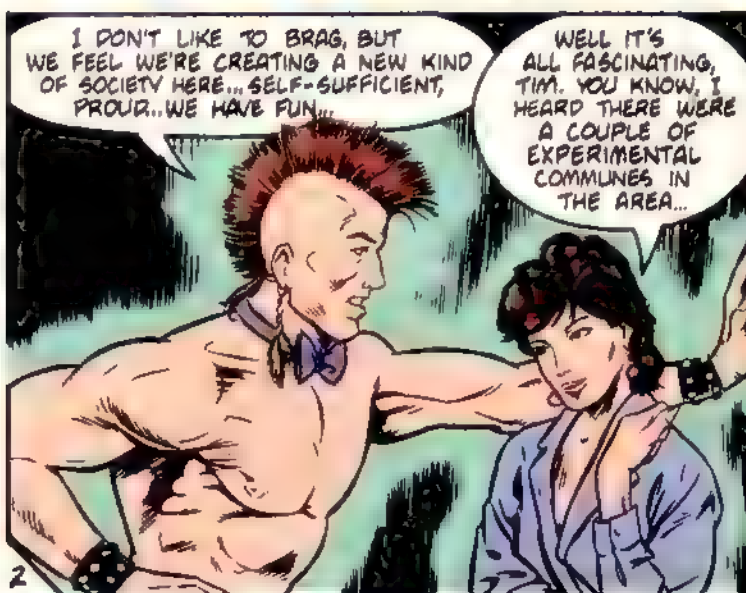
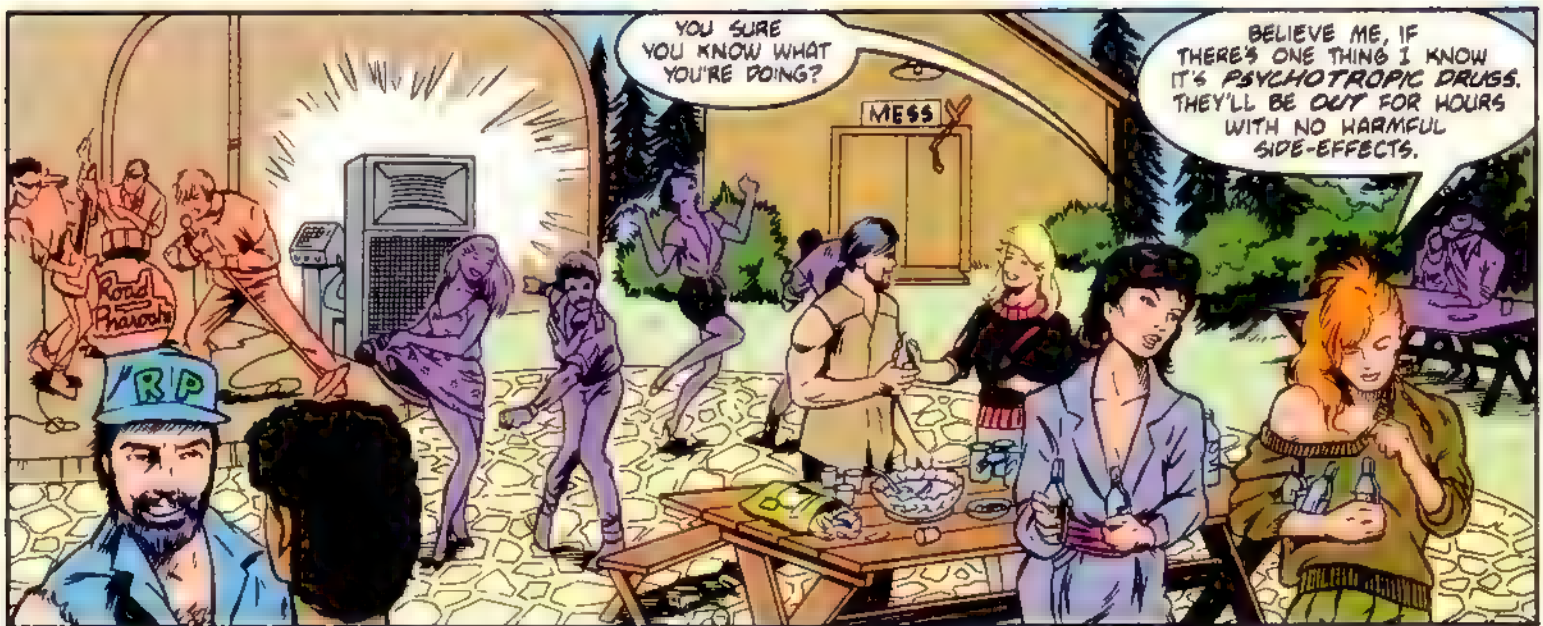
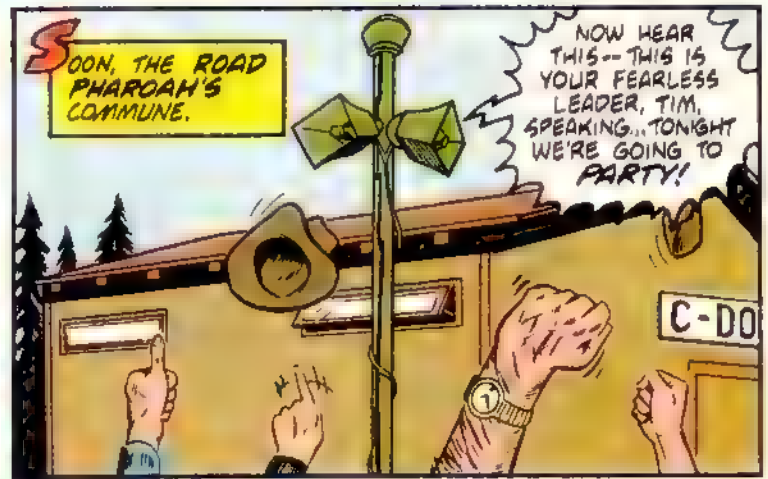
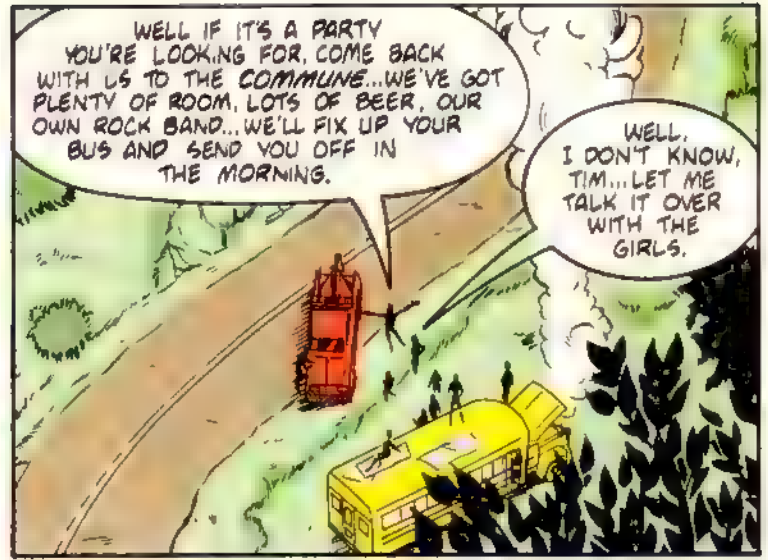
RUMBLE RUMBLE

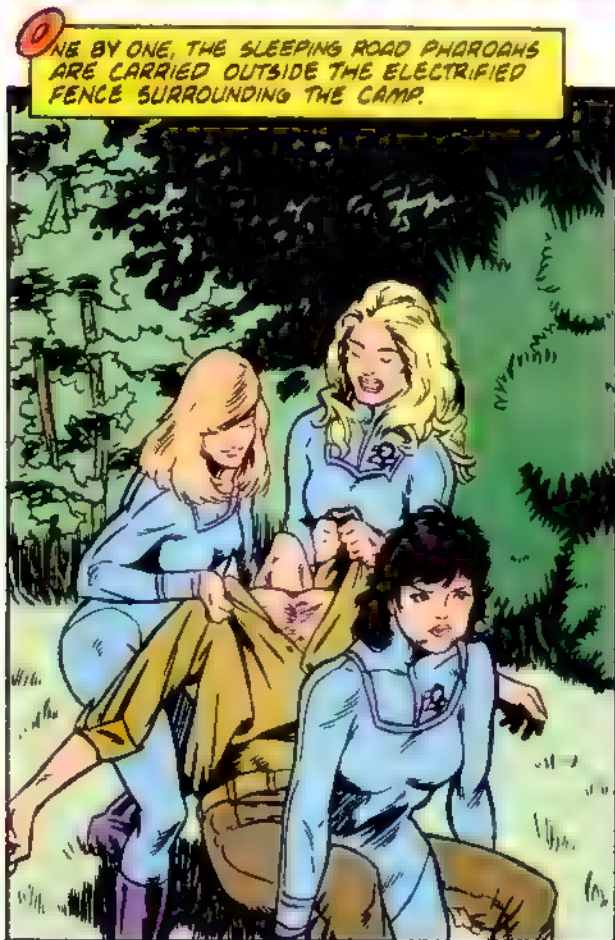
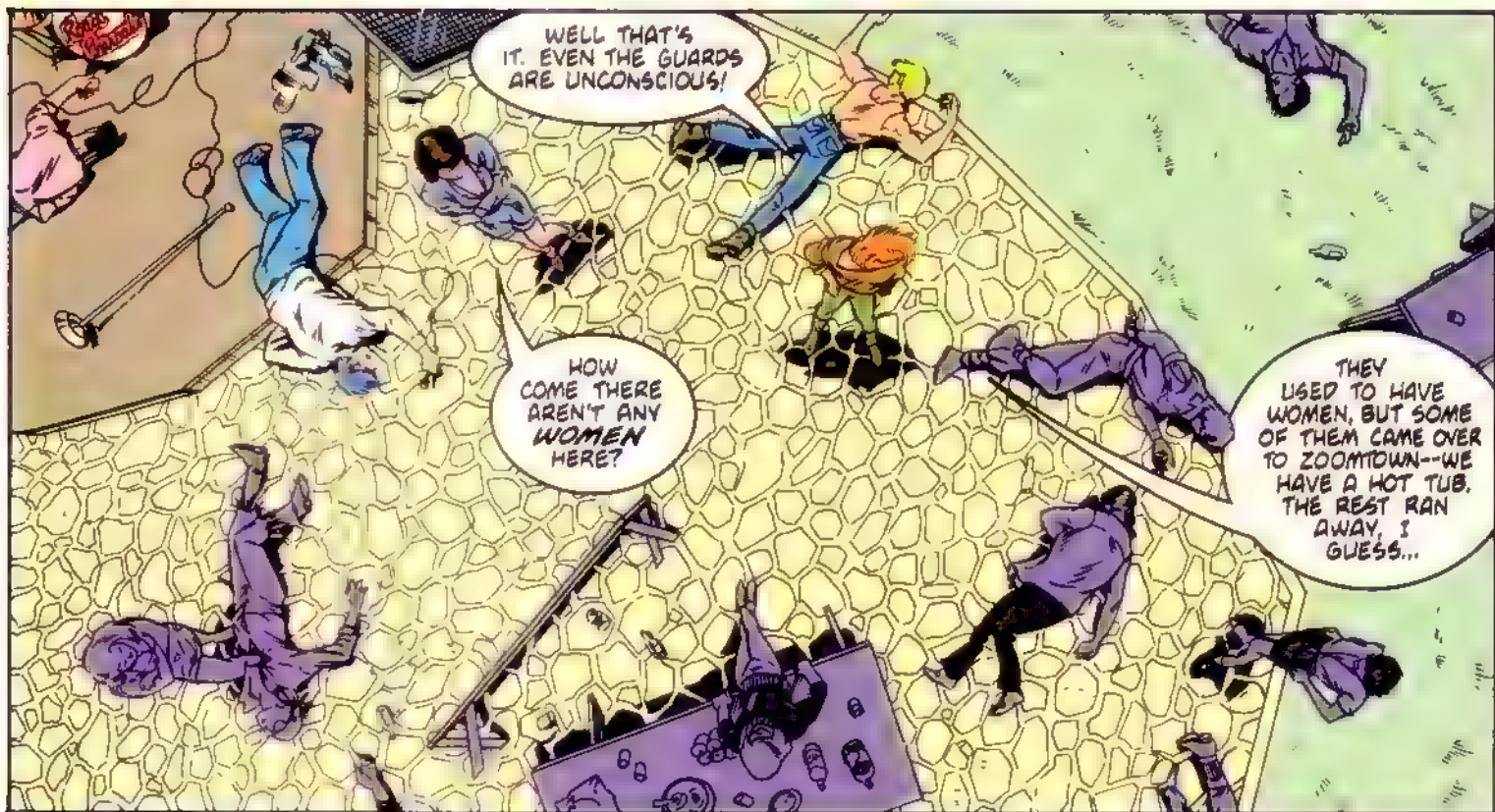
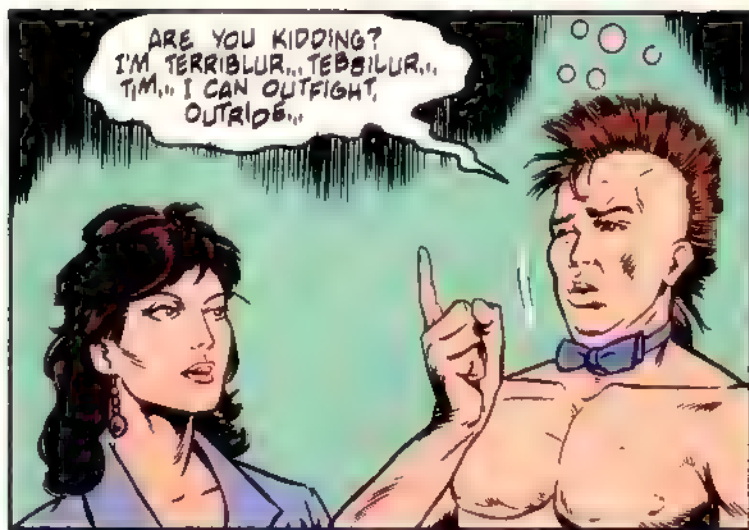


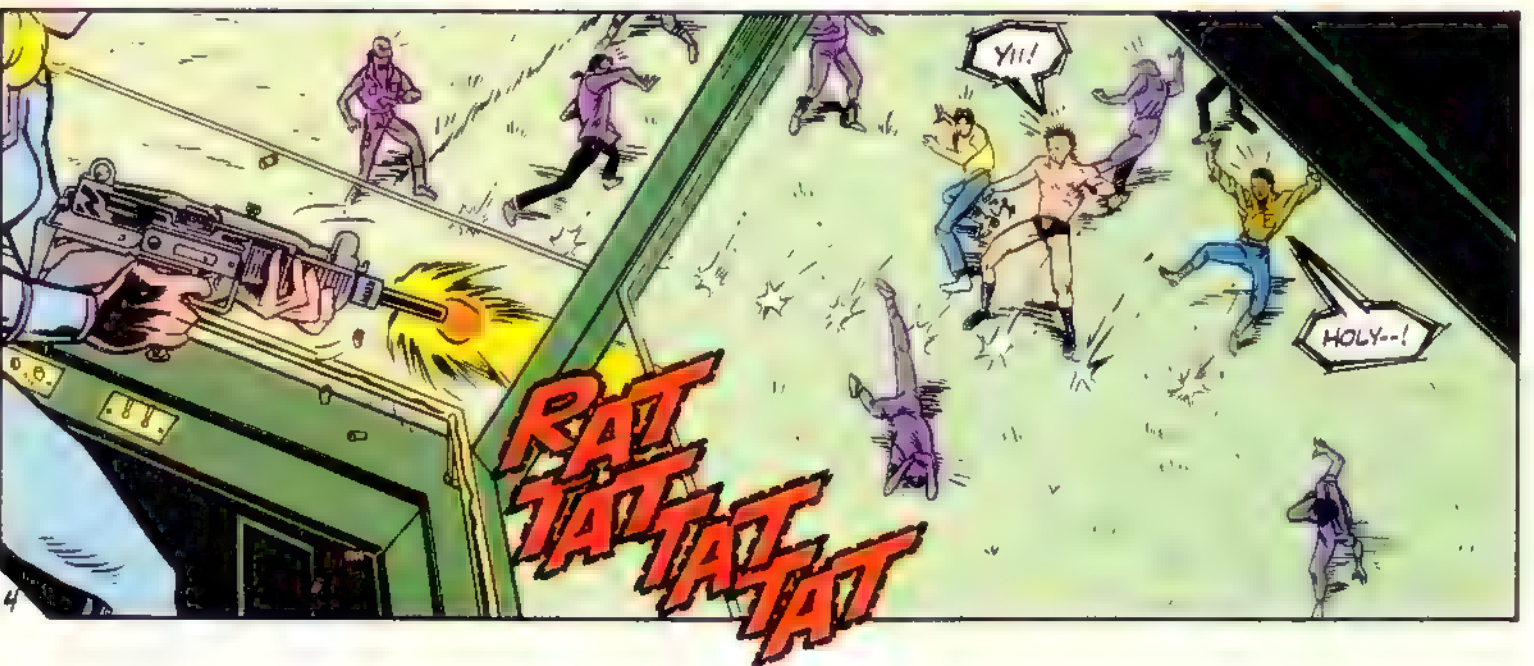
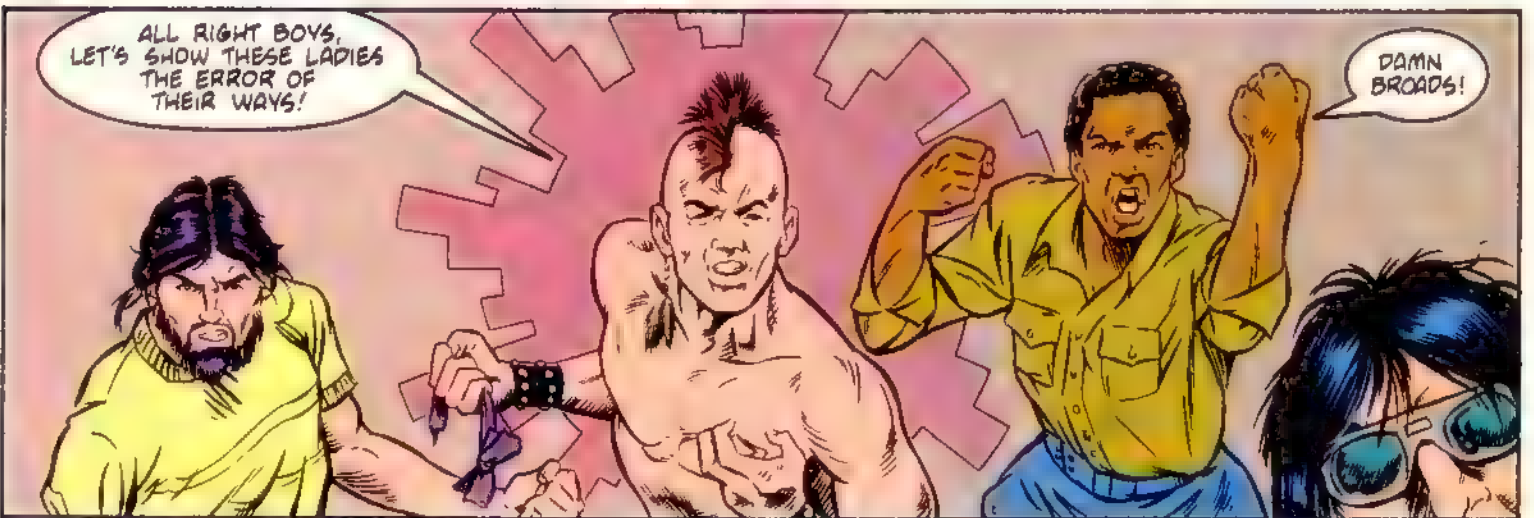
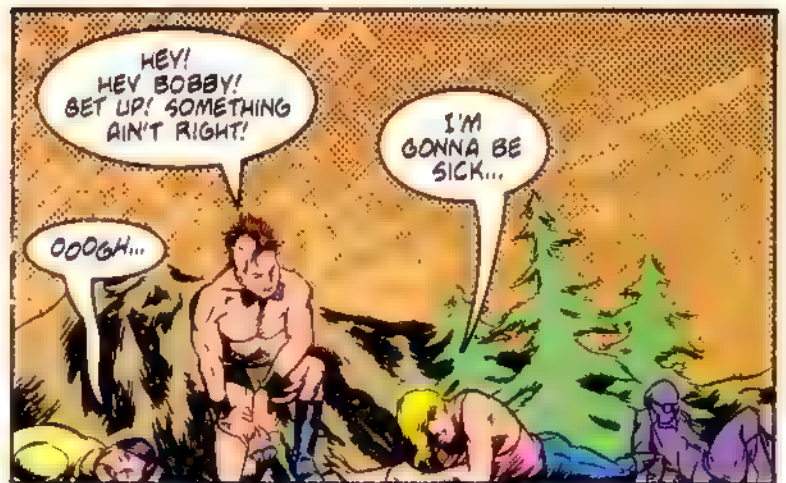
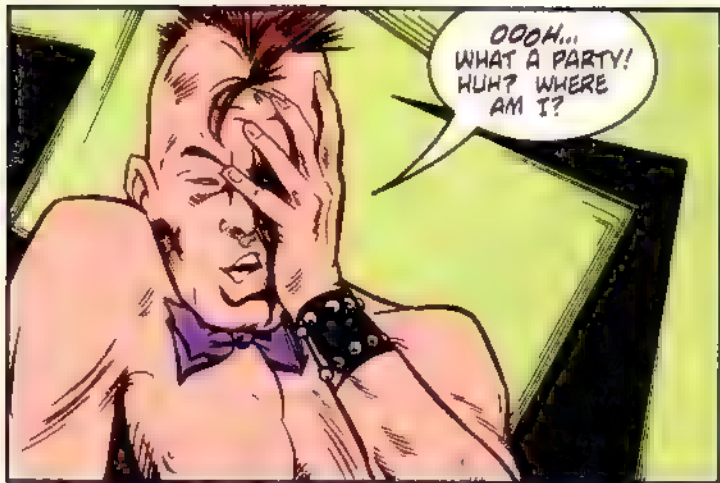


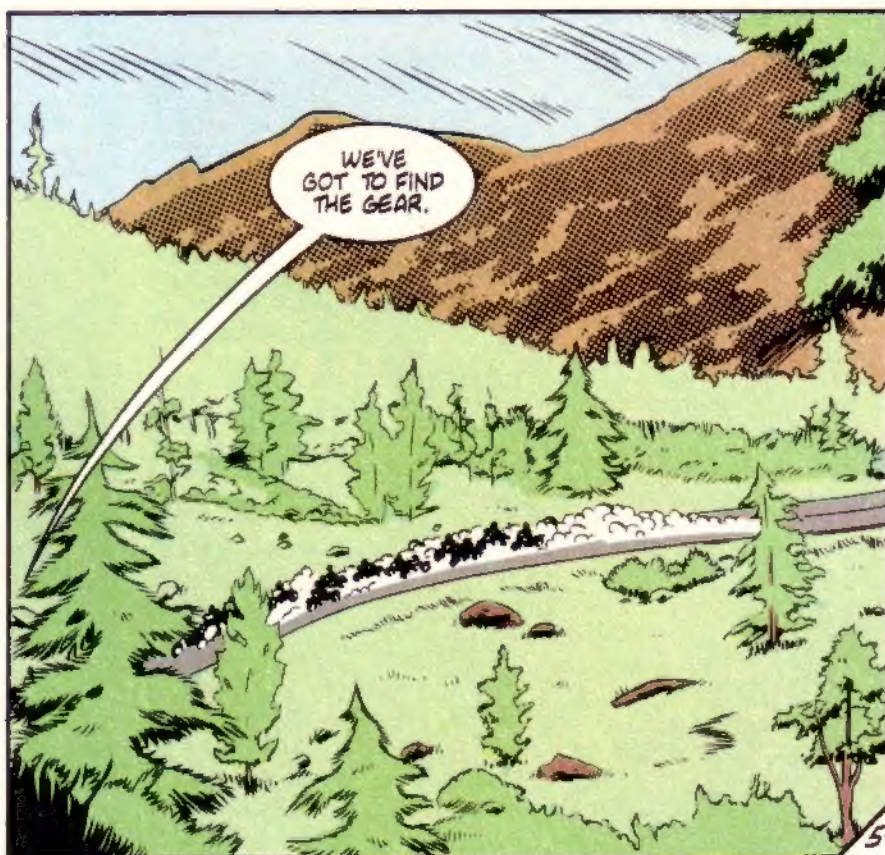
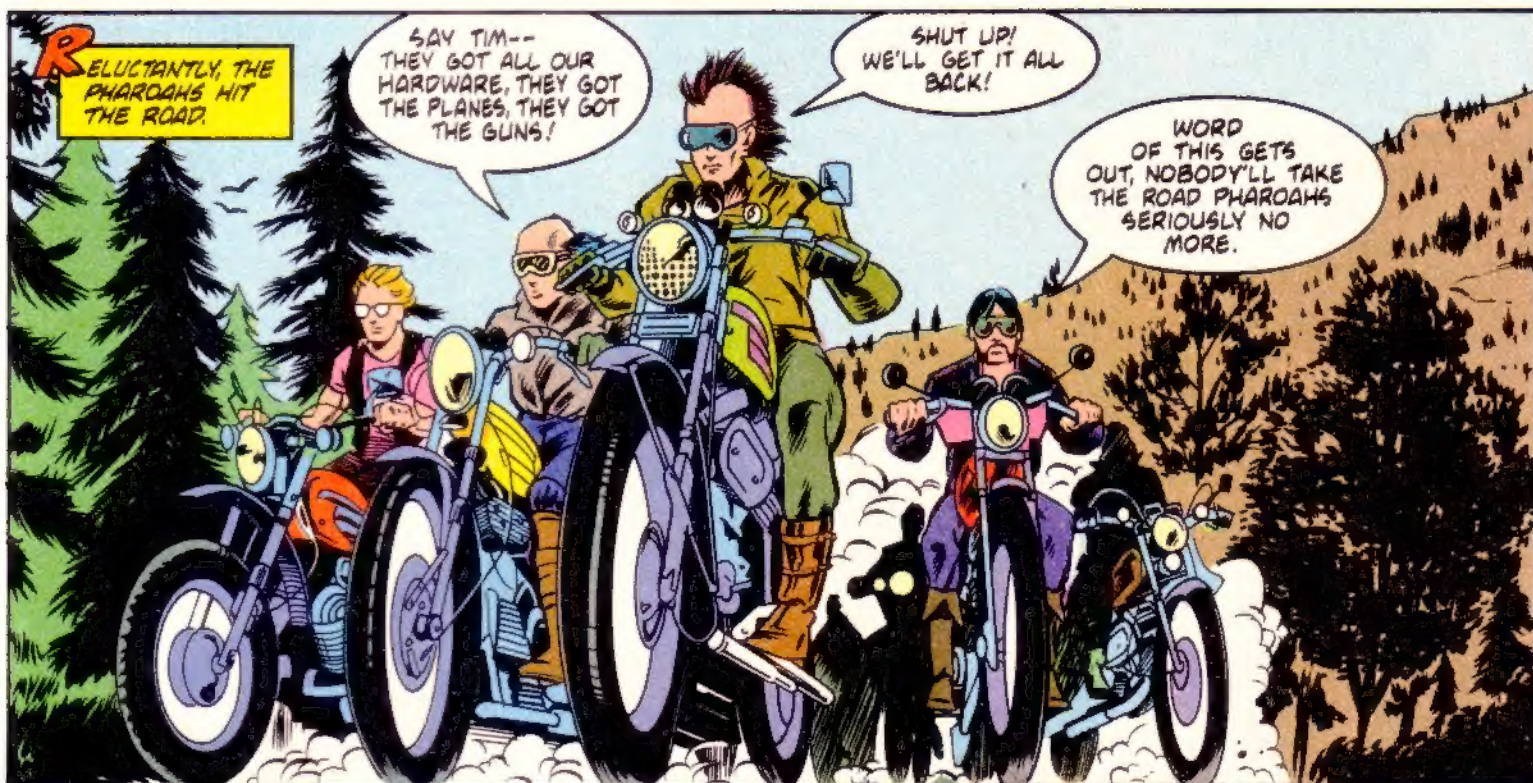
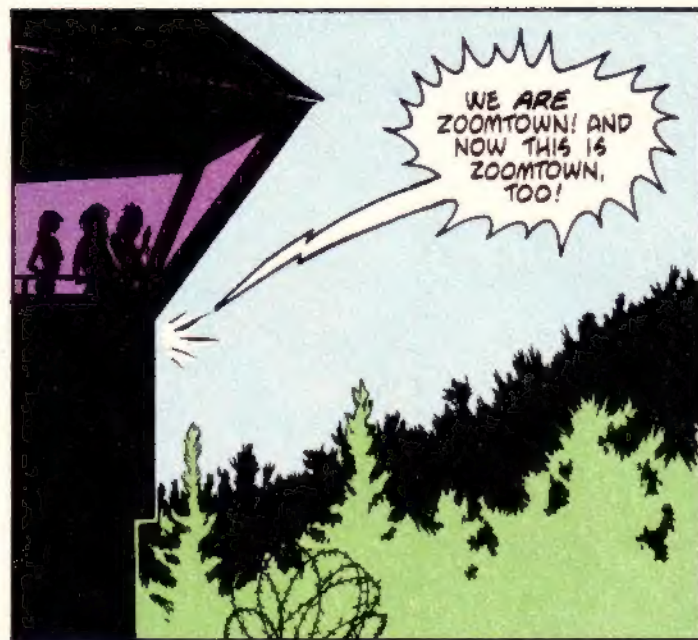
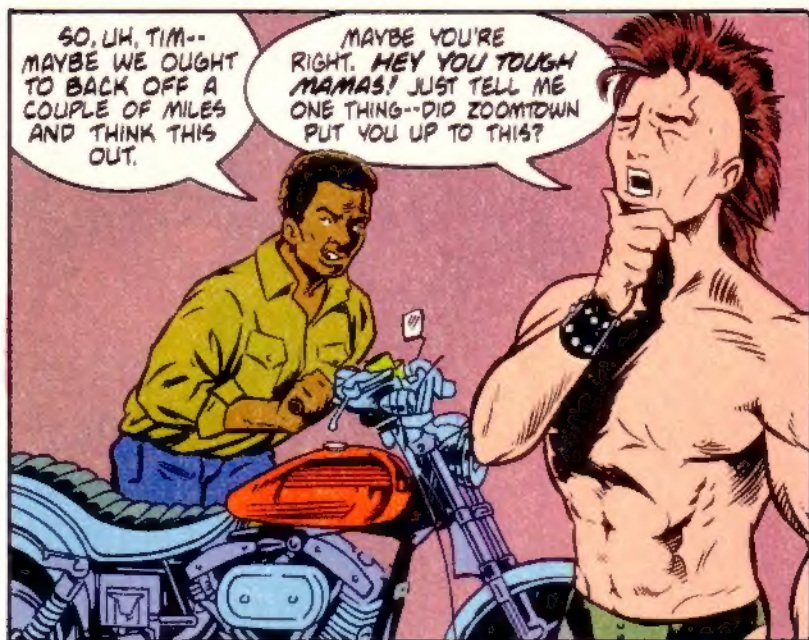


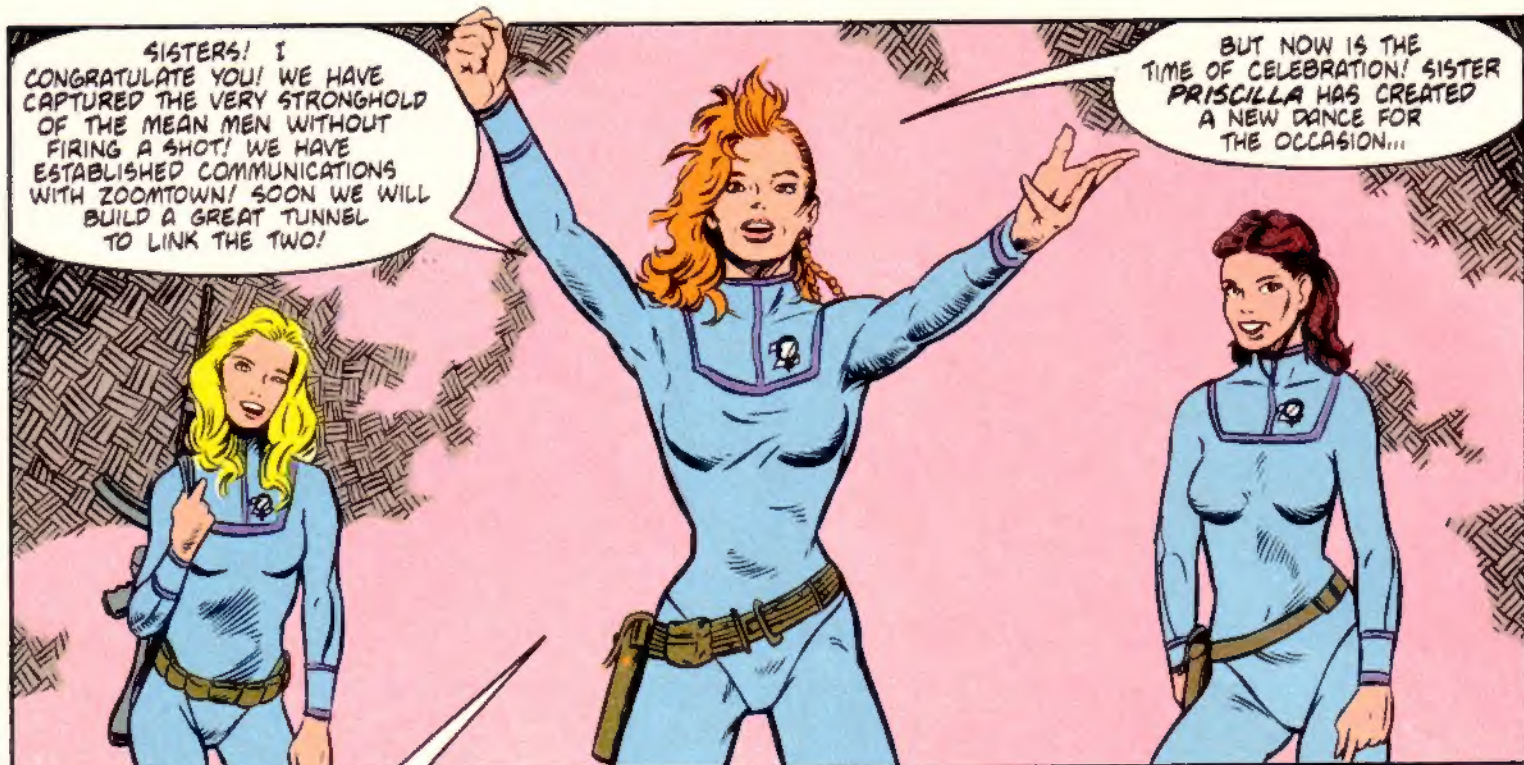












SISTERS! I CONGRATULATE YOU! WE HAVE CAPTURED THE VERY STRONGHOLD OF THE MEAN MEN WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT! WE HAVE ESTABLISHED COMMUNICATIONS WITH ZOOMBOWN! SOON WE WILL BUILD A GREAT TUNNEL TO LINK THE TWO!

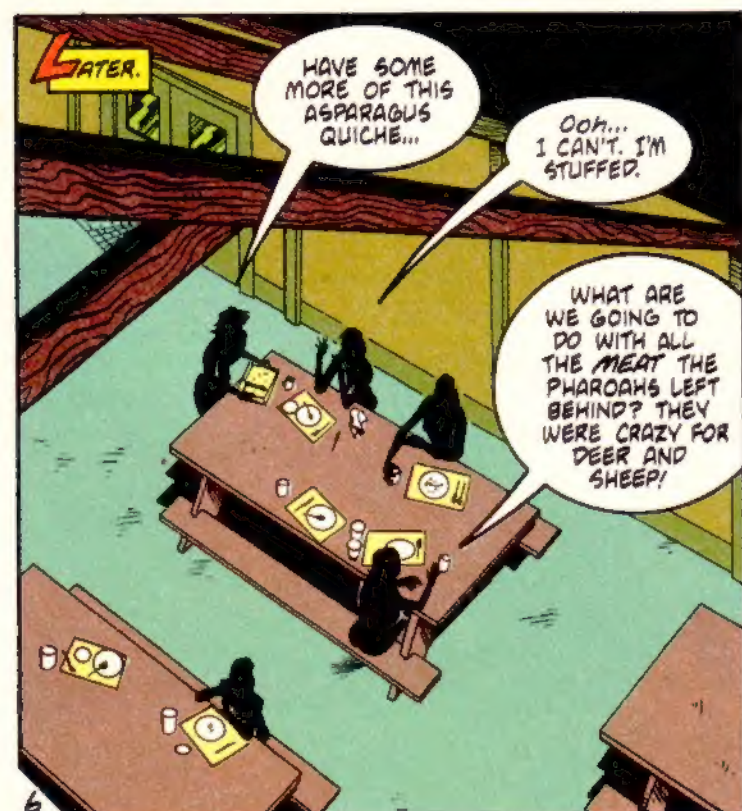
BUT NOW IS THE TIME OF CELEBRATION! SISTER PRISCILLA HAS CREATED A NEW DANCE FOR THE OCCASION!!!



THE DANCE OF THE TROJAN BUS!

BEATS THE "DANCE OF THE BUSTED TROJAN."

THAT'S FER SHER.

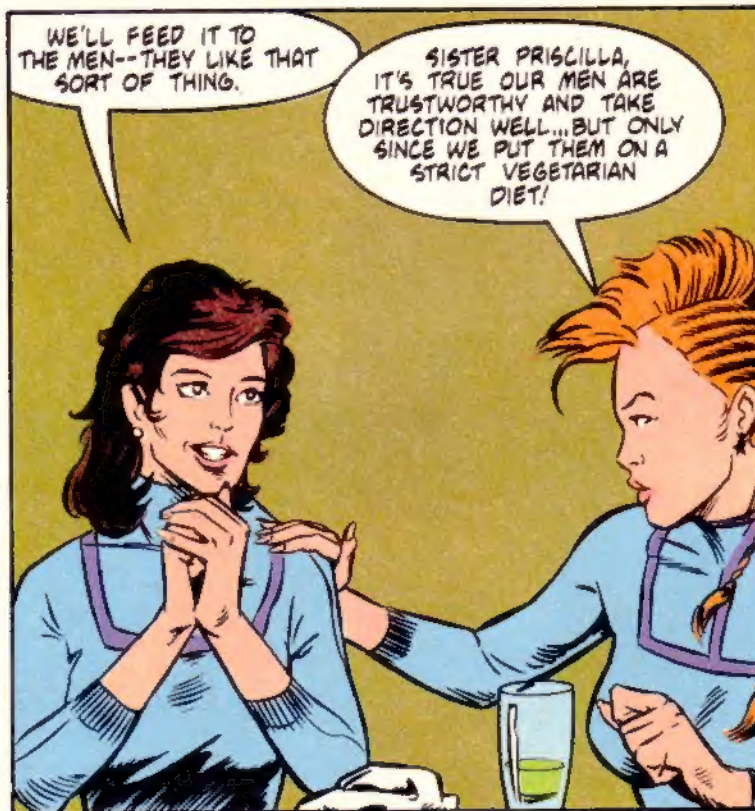


LATER.

HAVE SOME MORE OF THIS ASPARAGUS QUICHE...

Ooh... I CAN'T. I'M STUFFED.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH ALL THE MEAT THE PHAROAHS LEFT BEHIND? THEY WERE CRAZY FOR DEER AND SHEEP!



WE'LL FEED IT TO THE MEN--THEY LIKE THAT SORT OF THING.

SISTER PRISCILLA, IT'S TRUE OUR MEN ARE TRUSTWORTHY AND TAKE DIRECTION WELL...BUT ONLY SINCE WE PUT THEM ON A STRICT VEGETARIAN DIET!

